

PRIVATE DETECTIVE

OCTOBER

10c

# KEN SHANNON

CRIME-BUSTING PRIVATE EYE



"Suddenly, my right front tire let go and the wheel tore out of my hands! The next instant..."

*Don't miss-*

**KEN SHANNON**

*in*

**"THE EVIL EYE OF  
COUNT DUCRIE!"**



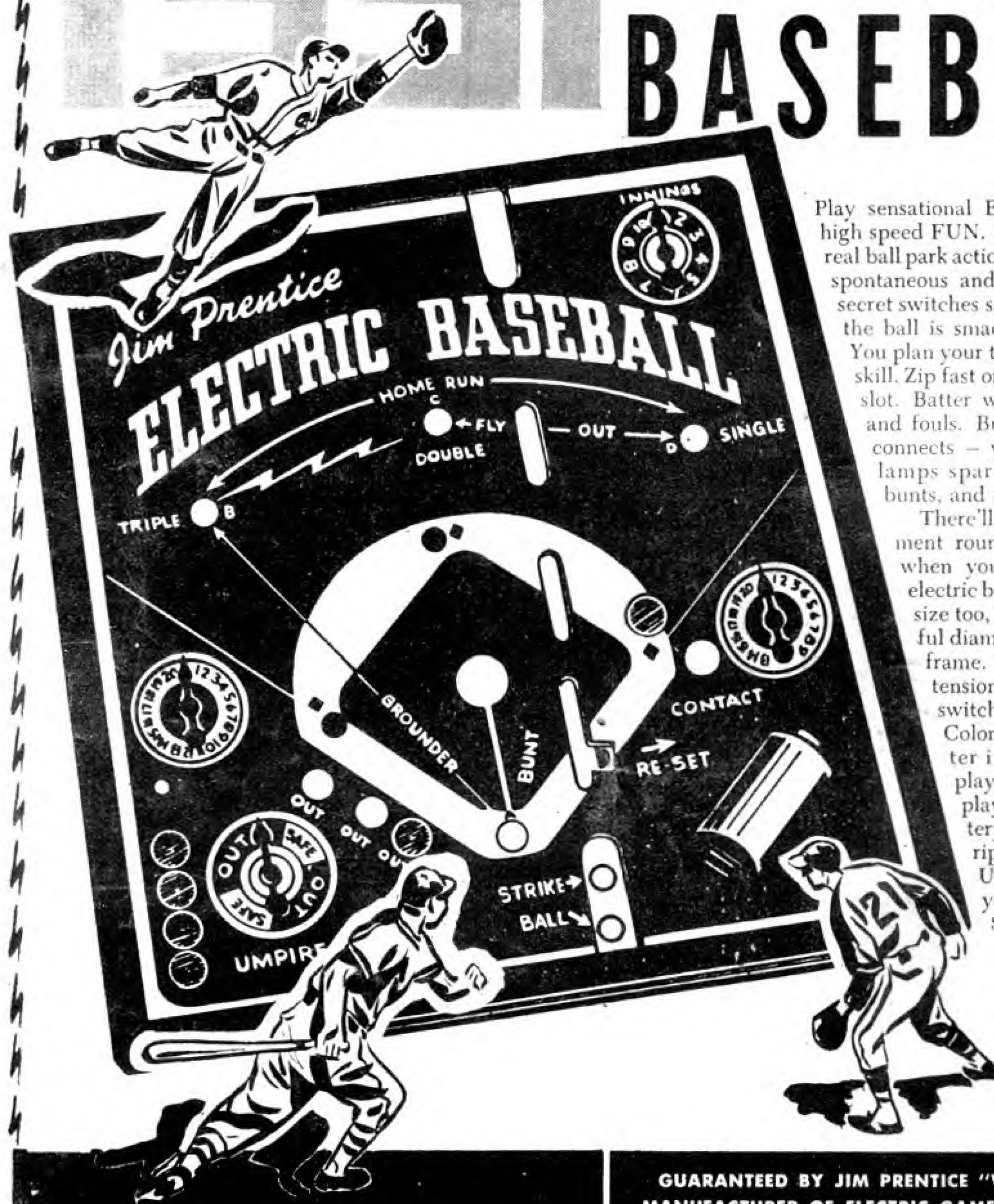


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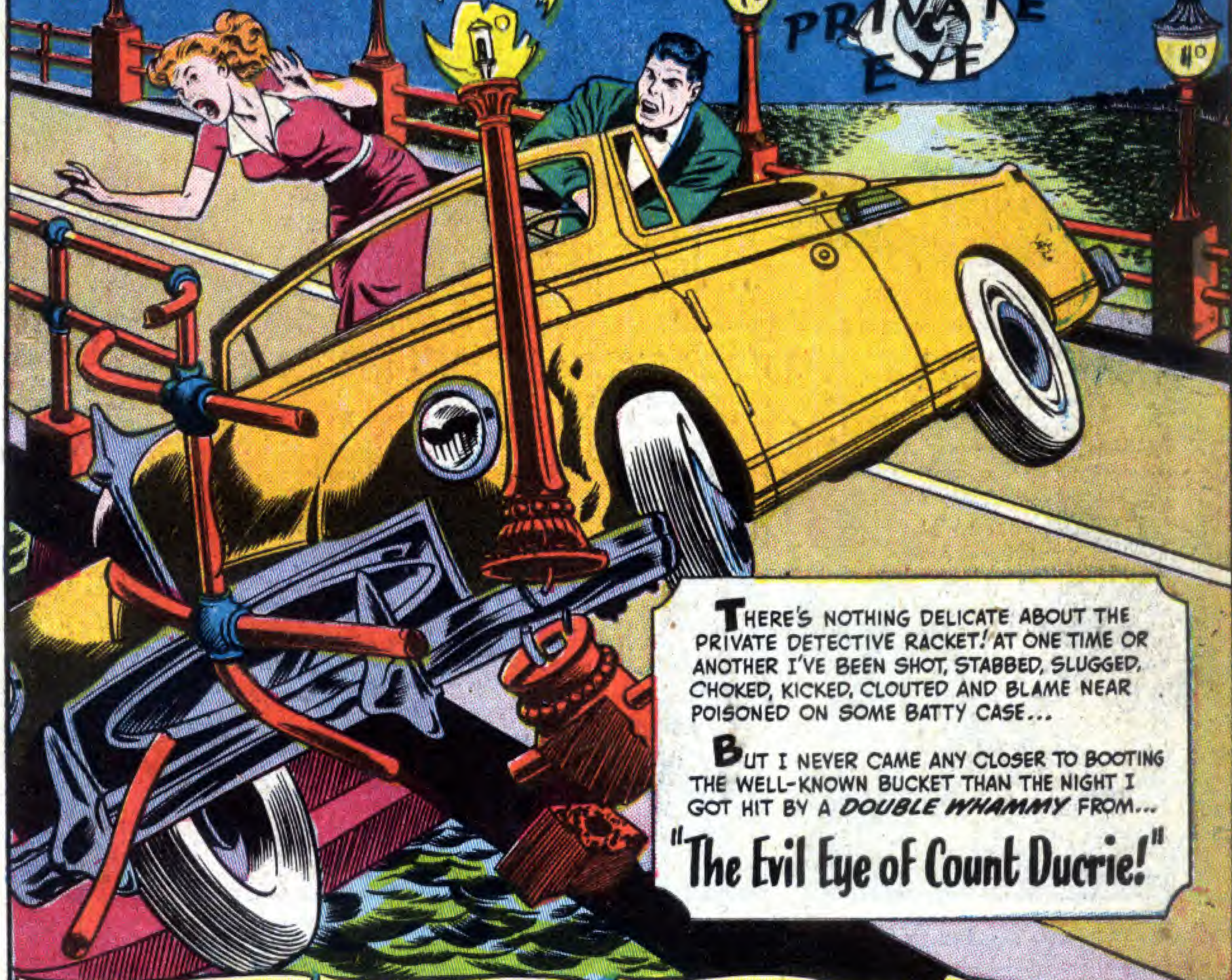
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# Ken Shannon

PRIVATE  
EYE



**T**HERE'S NOTHING DELICATE ABOUT THE PRIVATE DETECTIVE RACKET! AT ONE TIME OR ANOTHER I'VE BEEN SHOT, STABBED, SLUGGED, CHOKED, KICKED, CLOUTED AND BLAME NEAR POISONED ON SOME BATTY CASE...

**B**UT I NEVER CAME ANY CLOSER TO BOOTING THE WELL-KNOWN BUCKET THAN THE NIGHT I GOT HIT BY A *DOUBLE WHAMMY* FROM...

**"The Evil Eye of Count Ducrie!"**



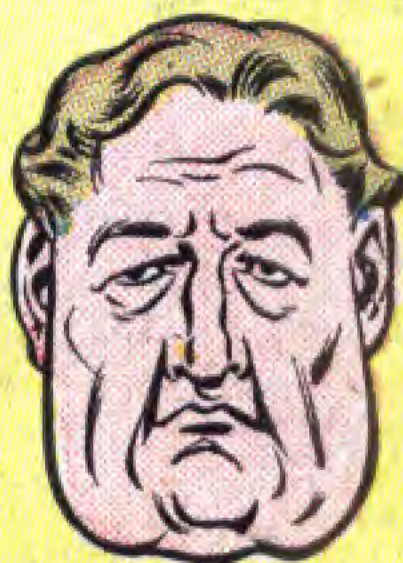
**MYRA WALSH**

FALLING FOR HER WAS A SHORT-CUT TO THE MORGUE!



**COUNT DUCRIE**

SO PHONY HE EVEN FOOLED HIMSELF!



**RALPH WALSH**

MYRA'S UNCLE, WHO PICKED UP AFTER HER WHEN SHE LEFT BODIES LYING AROUND!



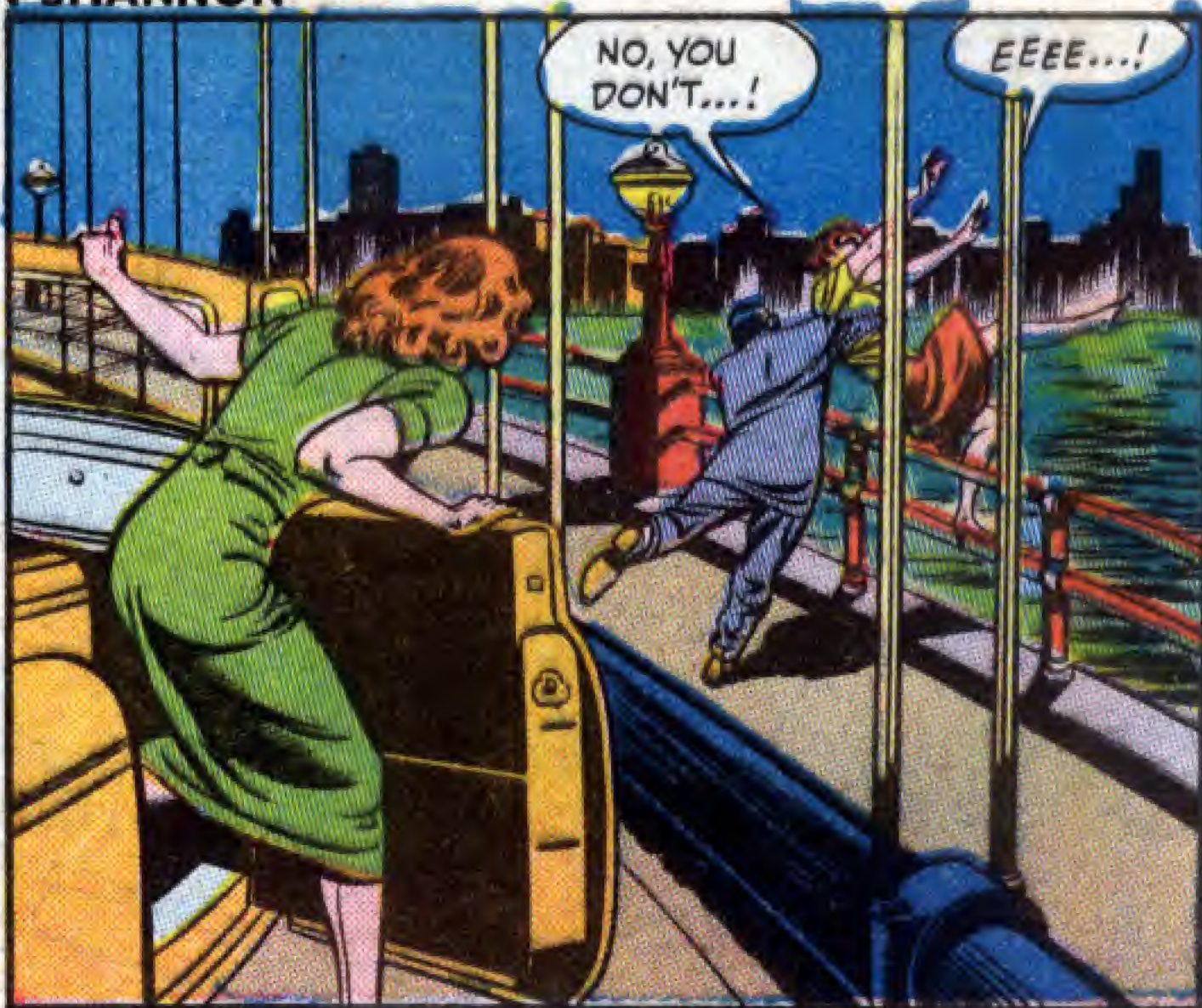
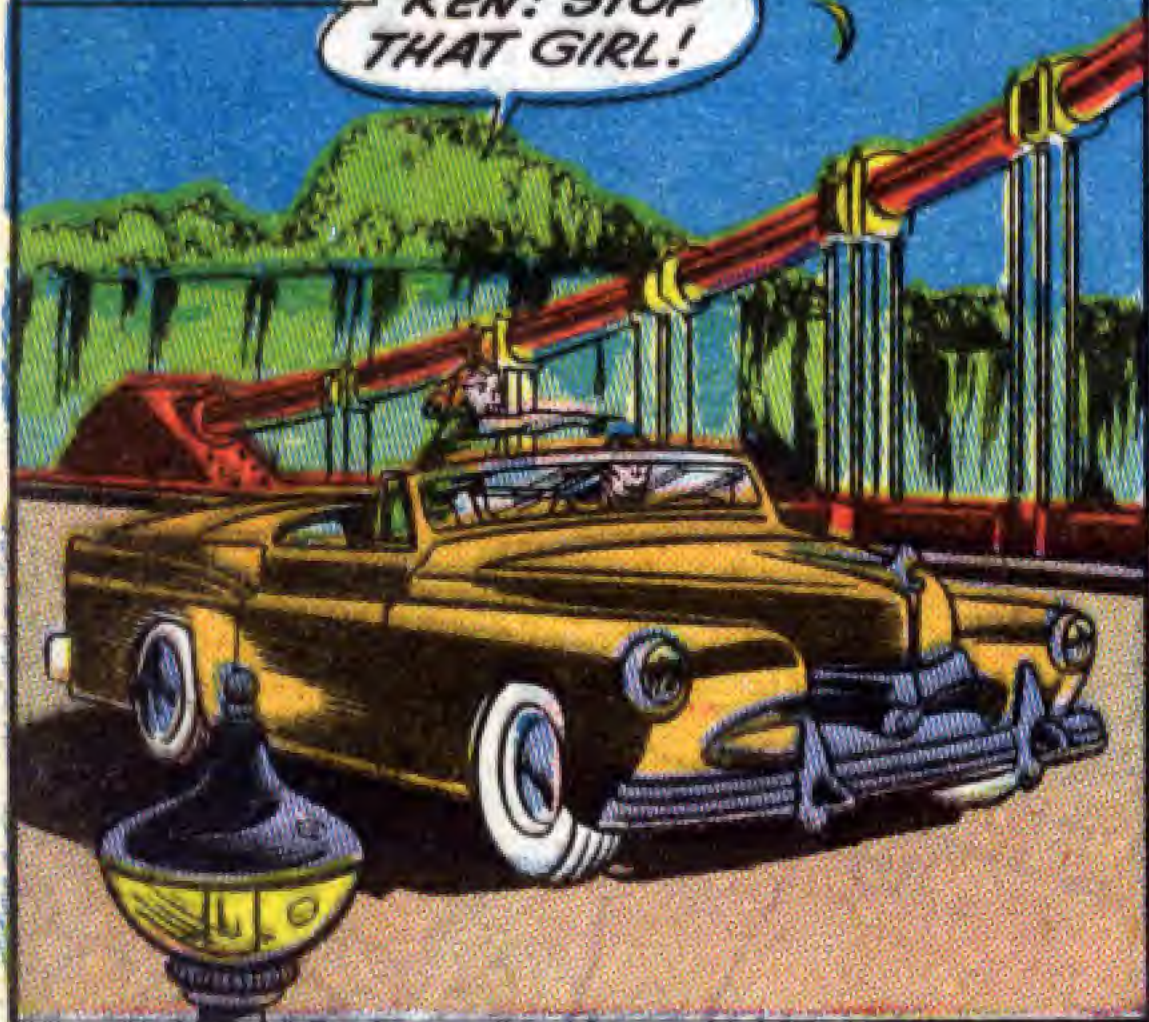
**DETECTIVE CLYDE**

MY PAL, WHEN IT DOESN'T INTERFERE WITH BUSINESS!



DEE DEE AND I WERE HEADING BACK TO TOWN ONE NIGHT, WHEN ...

KEN! STOP THAT GIRL!



OKAY, LADY GO-DIVING! WHAT'S THE IDEA OF THE MERMAID ACT?

KEN SHANNON, STOP BULLYING THE CHILD! SHE'S ALL UPSET!



SO I'M BULLYING HER? BIG DEAL!

OH, WH-WHY DIDN'T YOU LET ME GO? IT WAS THE ONLY W-WAY TO STOP K-KILLING PEOPLE! I'M A M-MURDERESS!



WHA...? JUST A MINUTE, SISTER! HAVE YOU BEEN SCRATCHING THE TRIGGER-FINGER ITCH ON SOME LATE BOY FRIEND?

NO, NO! YOU D-DON'T UNDERSTAND! ANYONE WHO LOVES ME IS DOOMED BY THE EVIL EYE OF COUNT DUCRIE!



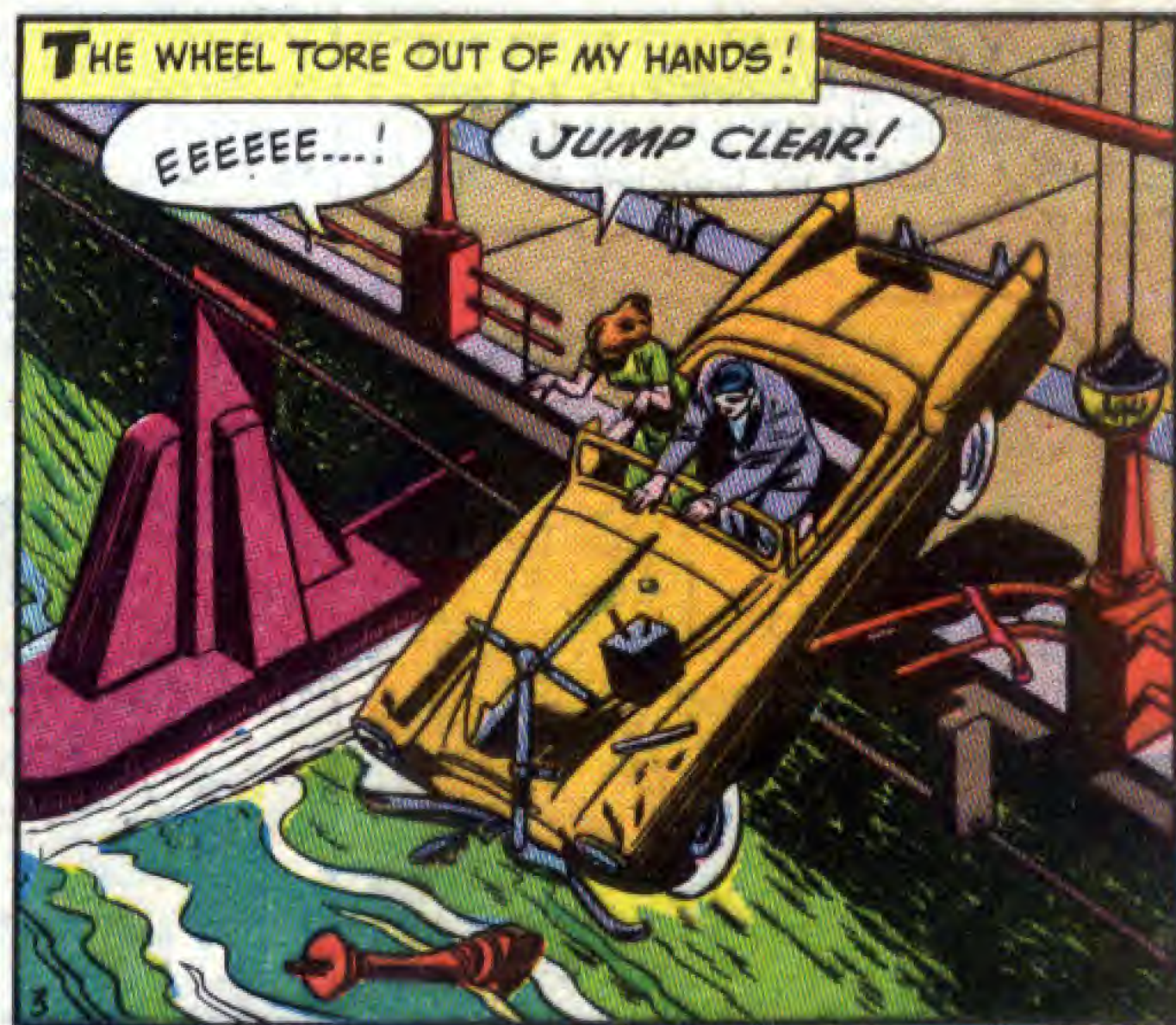
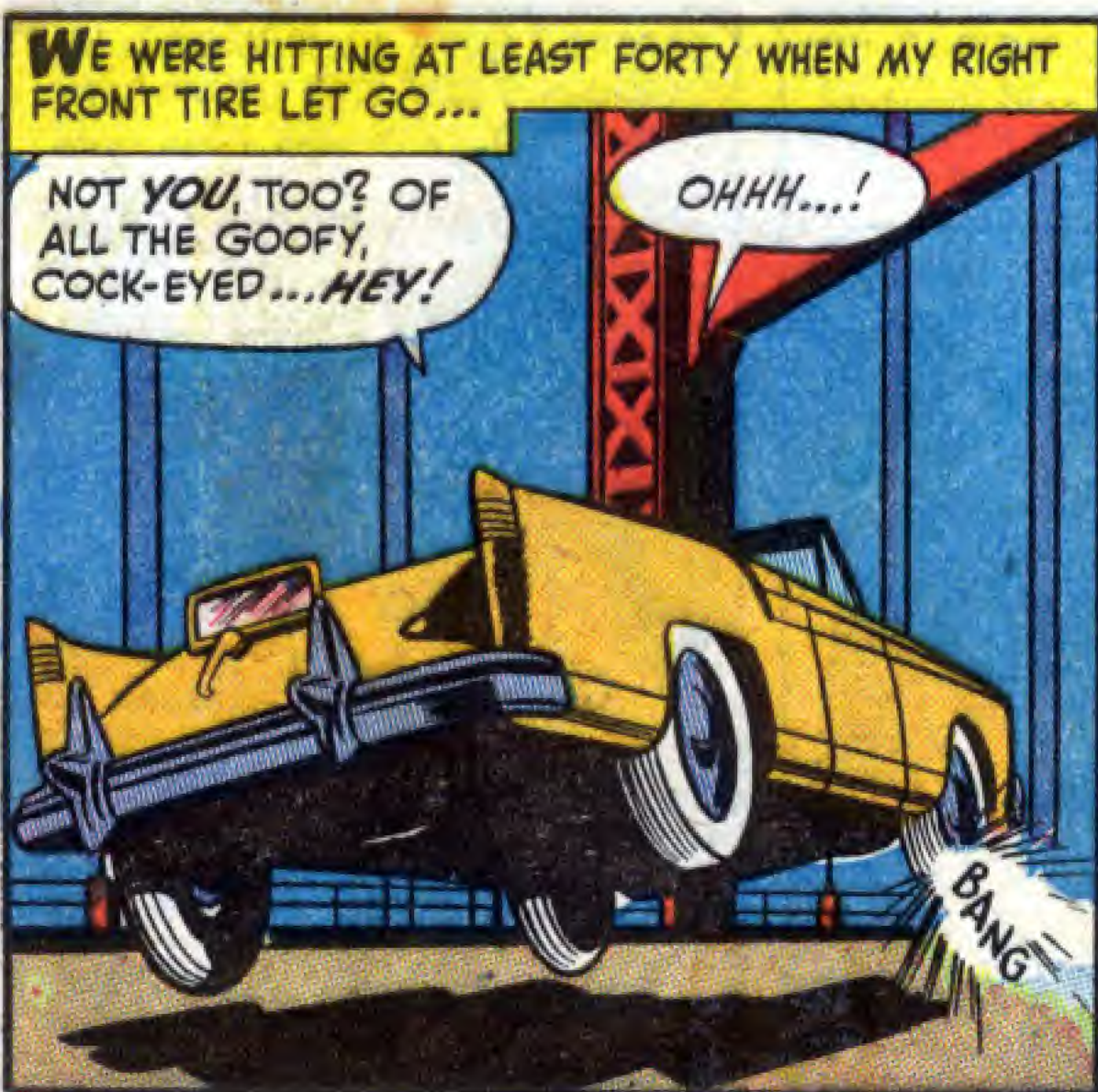
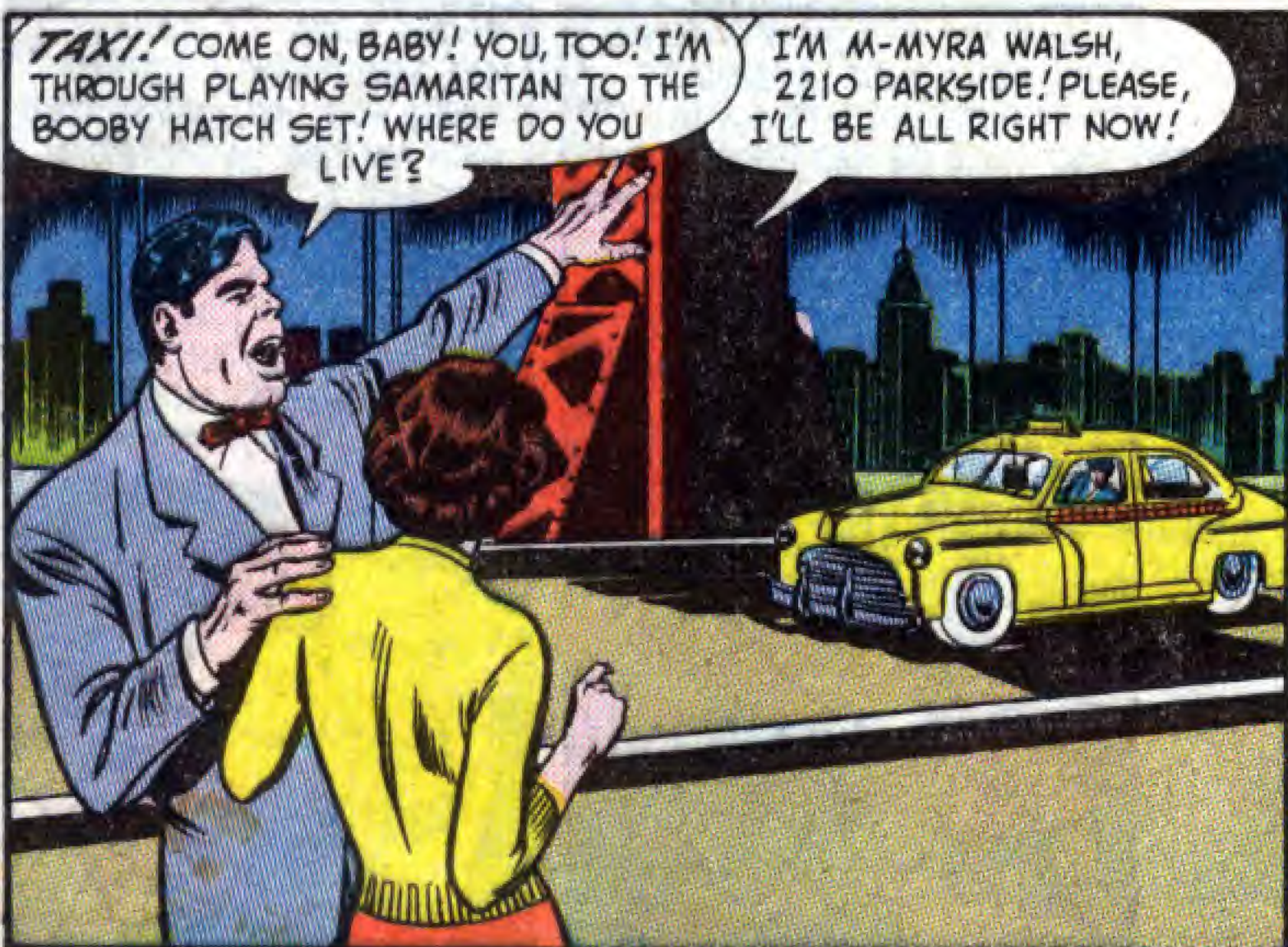
BEFORE I COULD ANSWER THAT, WE HAD COMPANY...

MY MYRA! MY BELOVED! I HAVE LOOK EVERYWHERE, THE MOST FRANTIC!

NO! KEEP HIM AWAY! D-DON'T LET HIM TOUCH ME! HE HAS THE EYE OF DEATH!











DON'T ASK ME HOW WE MADE IT! I WAS BUSY AT THE TIME!

BUT CALL IT THE LUCK OF THE IRISH THAT PUT A POLICE LAUNCH NOT FIFTY FEET FROM WHERE WE HIT THE DRINK!



CAN YOU GRAB ON WHILE WE PULL YOU IN? ARE YOU HURT?

ONLY MY POCKETBOOK! PULL AWAY!



THE FIRST FACE WE SAW ON DECK WAS THE HOMELY MUG OF MY PAL, DETECTIVE-LIEUTENANT ART CLYDE!

OH, NO! CAN'T I EVEN COME DOWN TO COLLECT A NICE QUIET CORPSE WITHOUT GETTING YOU TWO IN MY HAIR? WHAT HAPPENED?

NOTHING HAPPENED, DEAR BOY! WE ALWAYS WASH CARS THIS WAY! YOU SHOULD TRY IT SOMETIME WITH A SEDAN!

BLANKETS AND HOT COFFEE TOOK THE CHILLS AWAY WHILE DEE DEE GAVE ART A BRIEFING ON OUR BUSY LITTLE EVENING!



...AND BIG OLD SMARTY-PANTS KEN, HERE, JUST LAUGHED AT THAT HORRIBLE LITTLE MAN! AND THEN WE HAD THE ACCIDENT!

CORRECTION, BABY-DOLL! WHAT HAPPENED TO US WAS NO ACCIDENT!



THOSE TIRES ARE BRAND NEW! WHEN YOU FISH MY CAR OUT, ART, I WANT THAT TIRE GONE OVER WITH A MICROSCOPE..!

GAHHH! MOTHER ALWAYS TOLD ME THERE'D BE NIGHTS LIKE THIS! NOT YOU AND COUNT DUCRIE IN THE SAME NIGHT!



YOU KNOW THAT JERK?

KNOW HIM? HE'S BEEN DOWN TWICE, BEGGING US TO LOCK HIM UP! HE SAYS HE KILLS PEOPLE BY GLARING AT THEM!



HE'S CRAZY JEALOUS OF THAT WALSH GIRL! EVERY TIME SHE GETS A BOY FRIEND, THE BOY FRIEND DIES IN A FATAL ACCIDENT... AND WE CAN'T PROVE A THING!

STICK AROUND, BOY! YOU WILL!



BEFORE I GET THROUGH, I'LL PROVE THAT MONKEY ASSASSINATED LINCOLN! HE'S GOT ME REALLY SORE NOW!

I'M S-SCARED! HE WAS NEVER ANYWHERE NEAR YOUR TIRE, KEN! HOW COULD HE BLOW IT OUT... EXCEPT BY HIS CURSE?





YOU BE CAREFUL, KEN! ONE BOY FRIEND DIVED INTO THE WALSH SWIMMING POOL AND BROKE HIS NECK! THE SECOND WALKED INTO A TRUCK!

AND THE THIRD ONE SKIDDED OFF THE MOUNTAIN ROAD JUST LAST WEEK! I READ ABOUT IT! THAT POOR GIRL...!



POOR, MY FOOT! MYRA WALSH INHERITS FOUR MILLION BUCKS ON HER 21ST BIRTHDAY! HER UNCLE, RALPH WALSH, IS HER GUARDIAN!

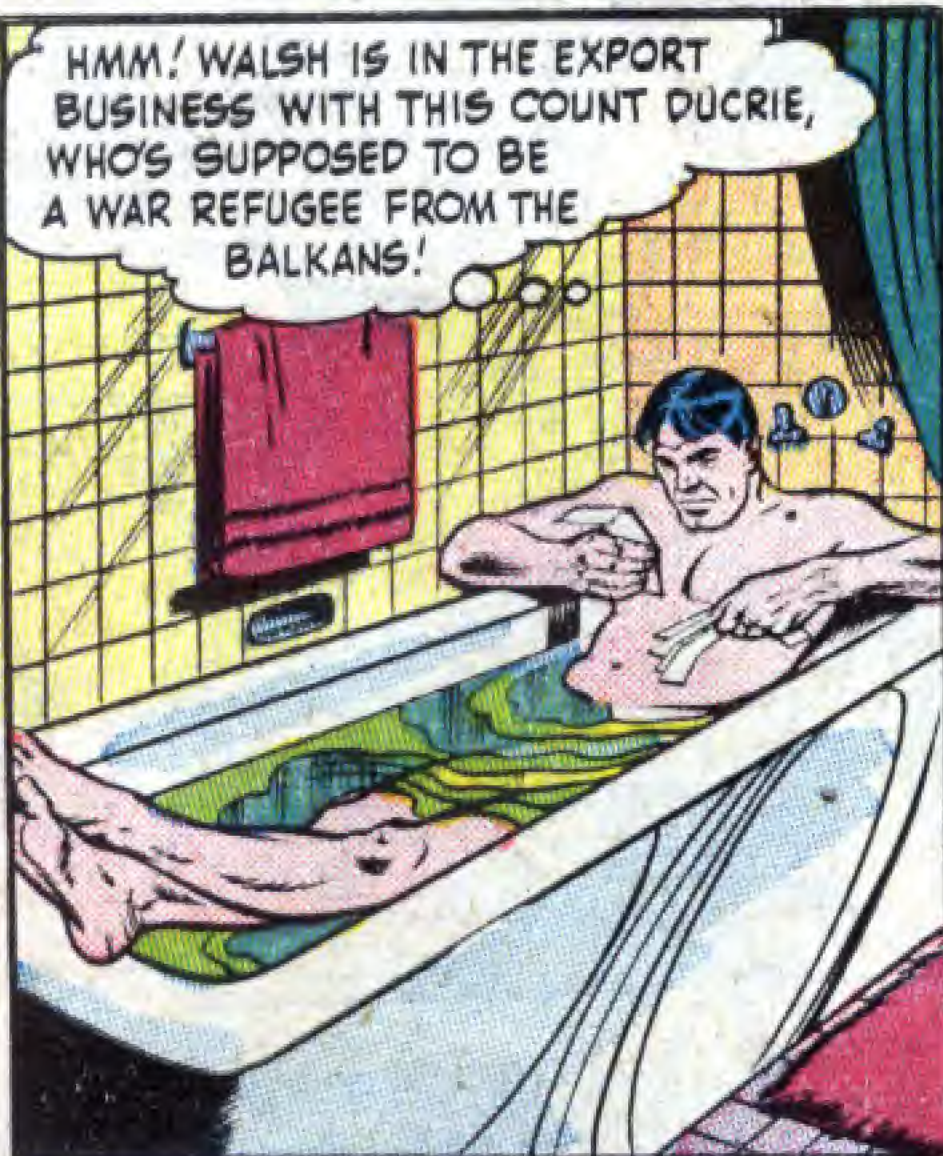
SHE *NEEDS* A GUARDIAN! AND SO DOES EVERYBODY ELSE WHO BELIEVES IN DROPPING DEAD BECAUSE SOME TWIRP GIVES YOU THE WHAMMY!



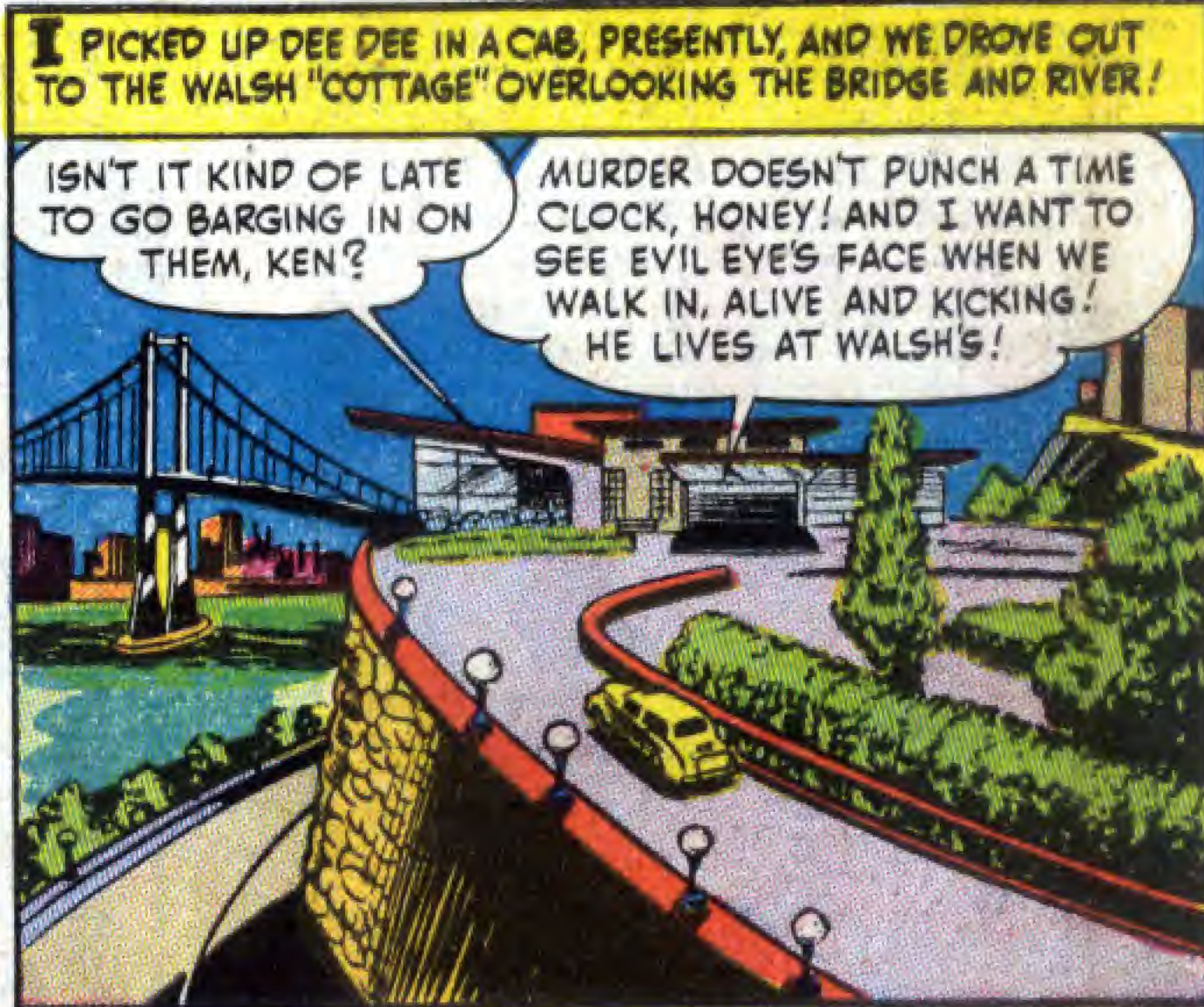
WE'LL GET SOME DRY CLOTHES AND PAY THE WALSH OUTFIT A VISIT! YOU CAN START DUSTING OFF THE HOT SQUAT FOR A CUSTOMER, ART!

SERIOUSLY, KEN, I HOPE SO! FOUR ACCIDENTS IS TOO MUCH COINCIDENCE! GET ME EVIDENCE OF MURDER AND I'LL ACT FAST!

WHILE I SOAKED OUT THE CHILL IN A HOT TUB, I STUDIED THE WALSH CLIPPINGS FILE DEE DEE DUG OUT FOR ME AT THE OFFICE!



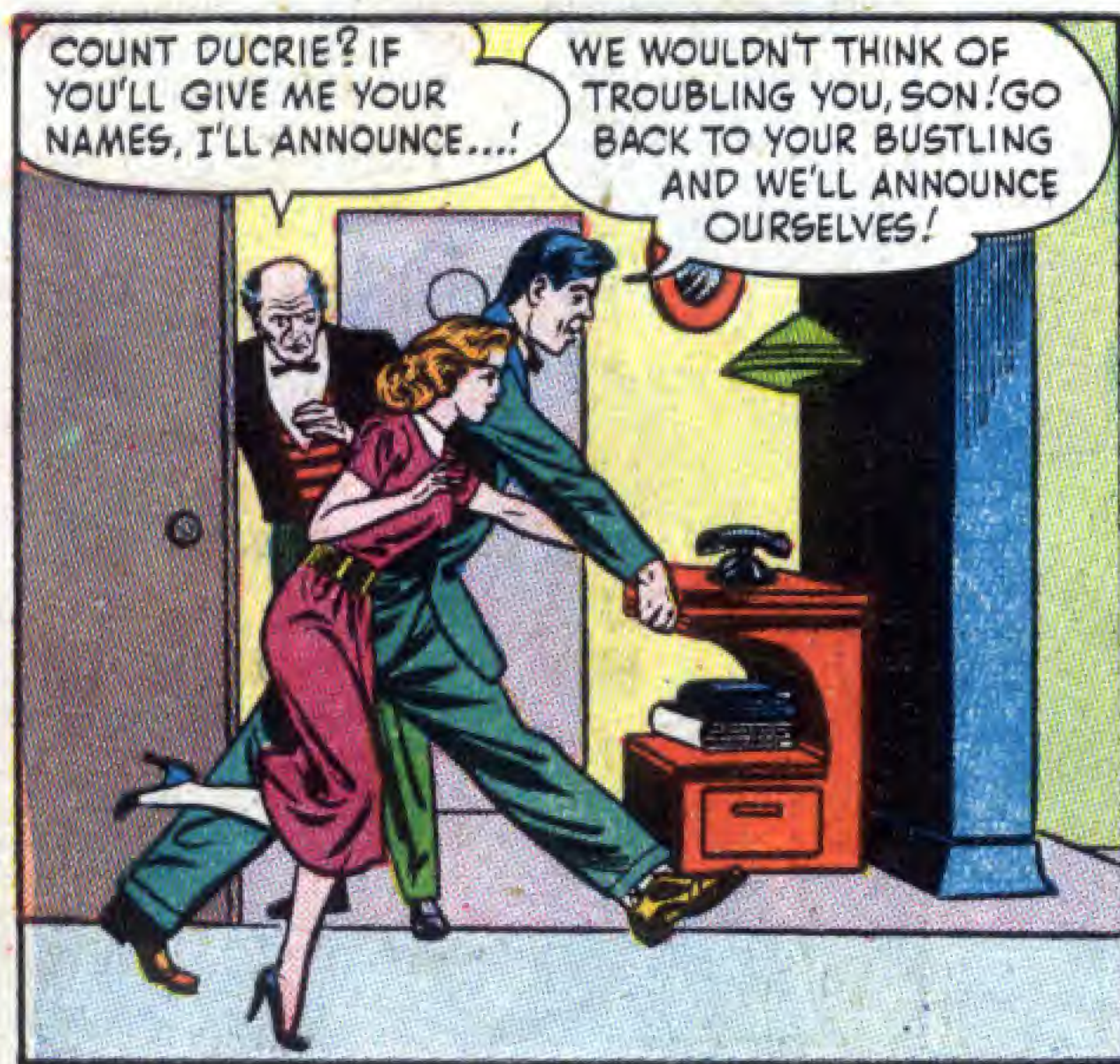
HMM! WALSH IS IN THE EXPORT BUSINESS WITH THIS COUNT DUCRIE, WHO'S SUPPOSED TO BE A WAR REFUGEE FROM THE BALKANS!



I PICKED UP DEE DEE IN A CAB, PRESENTLY, AND WE DROVE OUT TO THE WALSH "COTTAGE" OVERLOOKING THE BRIDGE AND RIVER!

ISN'T IT KIND OF LATE TO GO BARGING IN ON THEM, KEN?

MURDER DOESN'T PUNCH A TIME CLOCK, HONEY! AND I WANT TO SEE EVIL EYE'S FACE WHEN WE WALK IN, ALIVE AND KICKING! HE LIVES AT WALSH'S!



COUNT DUCRIE? IF YOU'LL GIVE ME YOUR NAMES, I'LL ANNOUNCE...!

WE WOULDN'T THINK OF TROUBLING YOU, SON! GO BACK TO YOUR BUSTLING AND WE'LL ANNOUNCE OURSELVES!

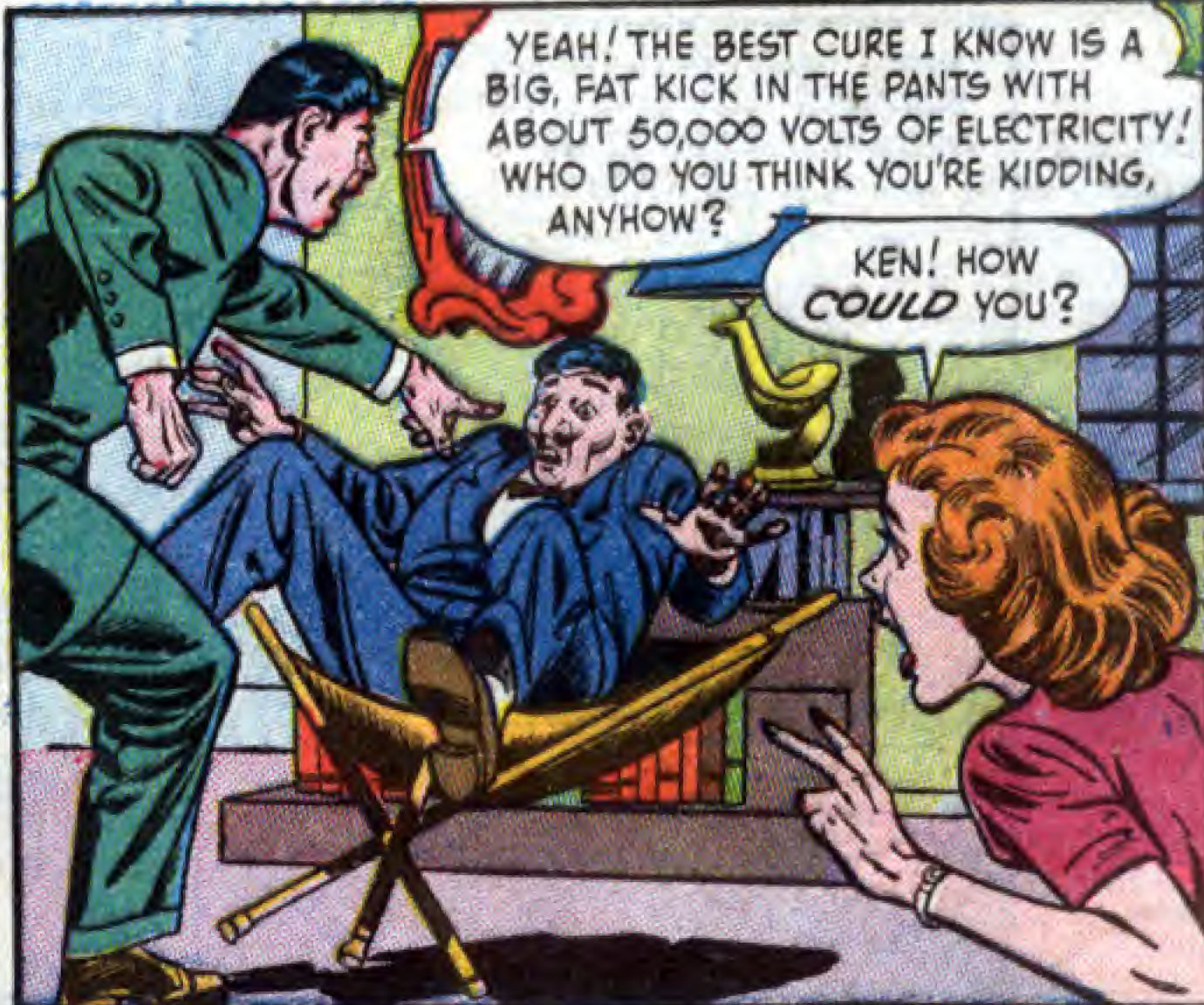


I WANTED A REACTION, AND I GOT IT... BUT IT WASN'T AT ALL THE KIND I'D EXPECTED!

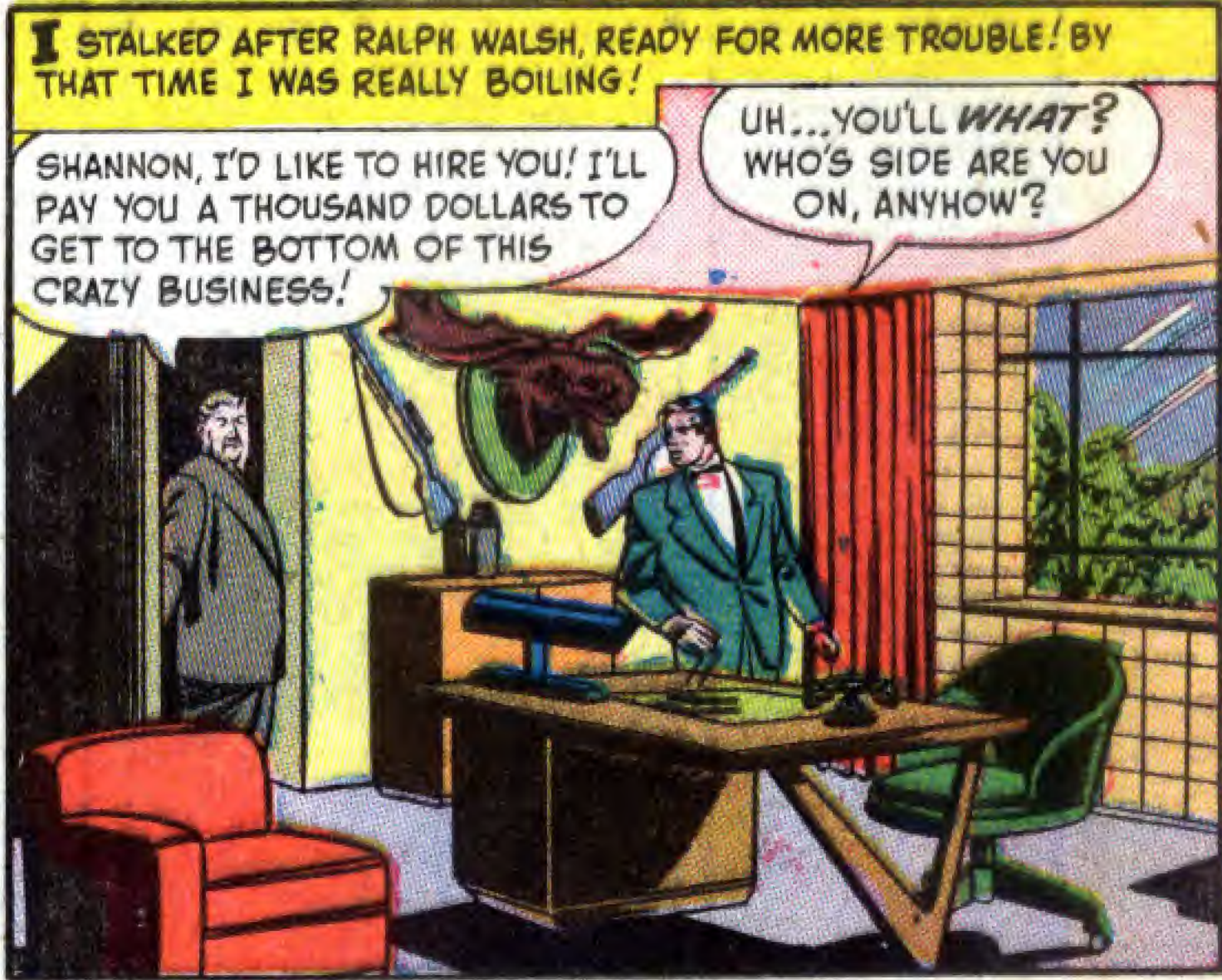
*YOU!* YOU ARE STILL ALIVE! OH, THANK HEAVEN YOU SURVIVED MY CURSE!

HUH? YOU ACT LIKE YOU'RE REALLY GLAD TO SEE US!

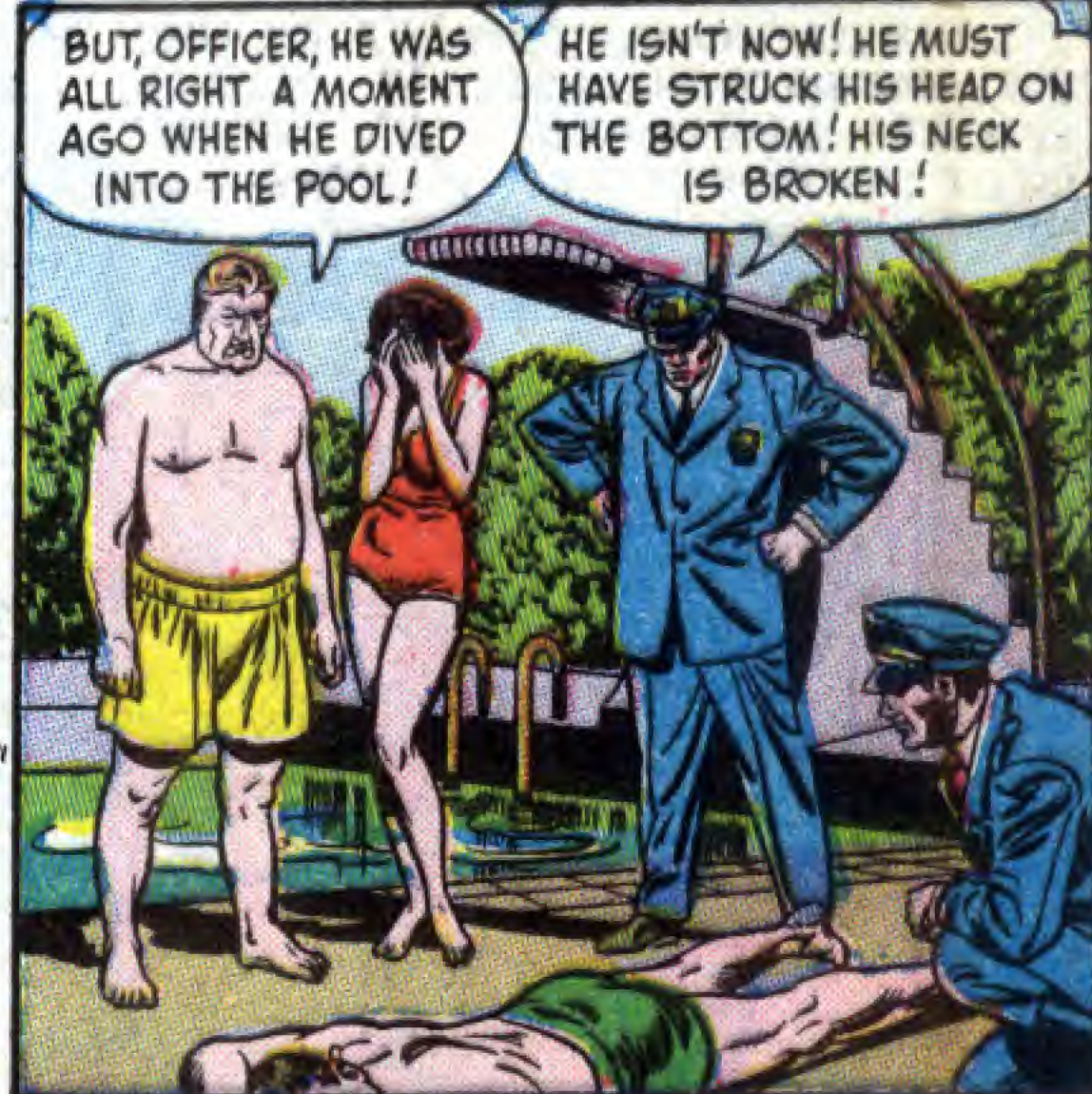




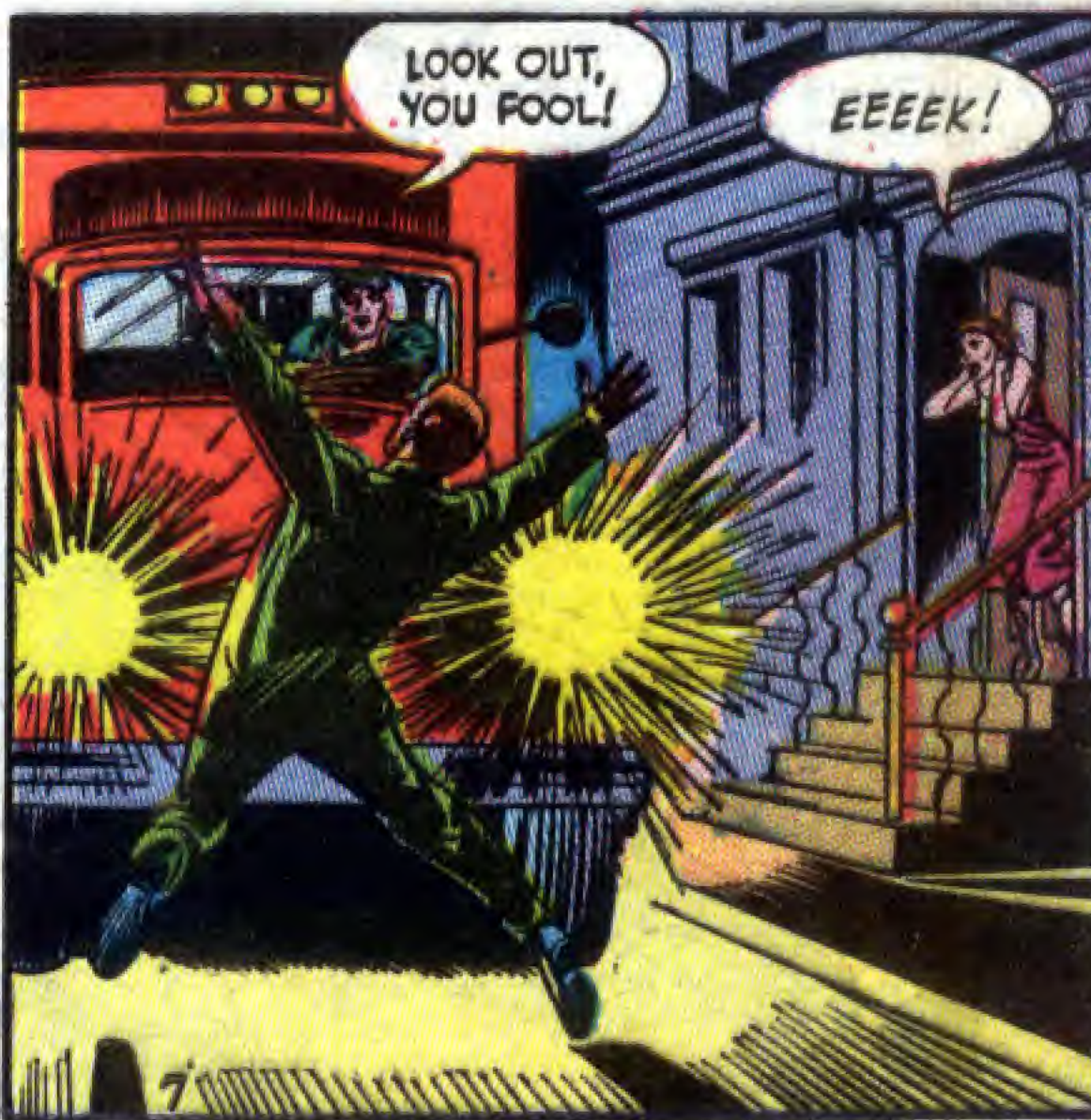




"YES," RALPH TOLD ME. "SHE ANNOUNCED HER ENGAGEMENT TO TOMMY LANE! DUCRIE SWORE HE'D NEVER LIVE TO TAKE HER FROM HIM!"



"THE SCENE MUST HAVE UPSET BILL! HE WALKED OUTSIDE A FEW MINUTES LATER AND RIGHT IN FRONT OF A TRUCK! THE DRIVER WASN'T TO BLAME!"





"LAST WEEK DON KELLER SKIDDED OFF A MOUNTAIN ROAD RIGHT AFTER DUCRIE CURSED HIM! AGAIN THE POLICE FOUND NO EVIDENCE OF FOUL PLAY!"



CAN YOU BLAME ME FOR DOUBTING MY OWN REASON, SHANNON? AND NOW, YOU NARROWLY ESCAPED A SIMILAR FATE! WHAT CAN I BELIEVE?



YOU CAN BELIEVE I'LL BURN SOMEBODY FOR MURDER BEFORE I'M THROUGH, WALSH! I PROMISE YOU THAT!



LOOKS LIKE YOU'RE A BIG GAME HUNTER ON THE SIDE!



I ONCE DID A LOT OF IT, SHANNON! BUT THESE PAST FEW YEARS I'VE HAD TO STICK HERE AND TAKE CARE OF MYRA! I'LL BE GLAD WHEN SHE DOES MARRY!



I'LL HAVE MY CHAUFFEUR DRIVE YOU AND MISS DAWSON HOME, SHANNON! PLEASE KEEP OUR LITTLE TALK CONFIDENTIAL!



OH, SURE! COME ON, DEE DEE!

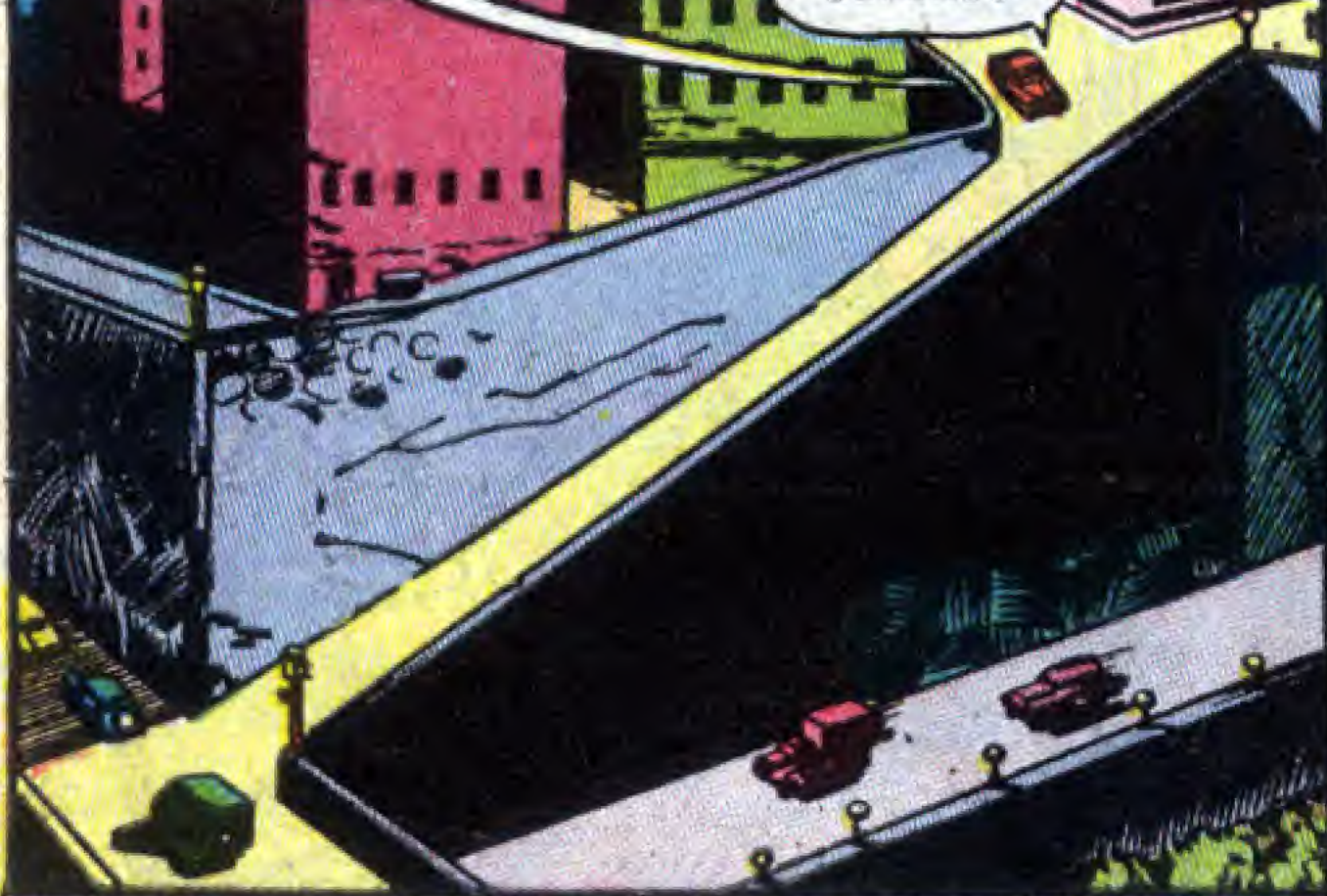
DRIVE THEM ANYWHERE THEY WISH TO GO, ANSON!



THANKS, WALSH! I'LL DO SOME CHECKING UP AND GET IN TOUCH WITH YOU IN THE MORNING!

HONESTLY, I WAS ASHAMED OF YOU TONIGHT, KEN! I KNOW YOU'RE UPSET OVER LOSING YOUR CAR, BUT...

MY CAR! THAT'S IT! THAT'S THE ANSWER TO EVERYTHING! WHAT A DOUGH-BRAIN I'VE BEEN NOT TO SEE IT BEFORE!



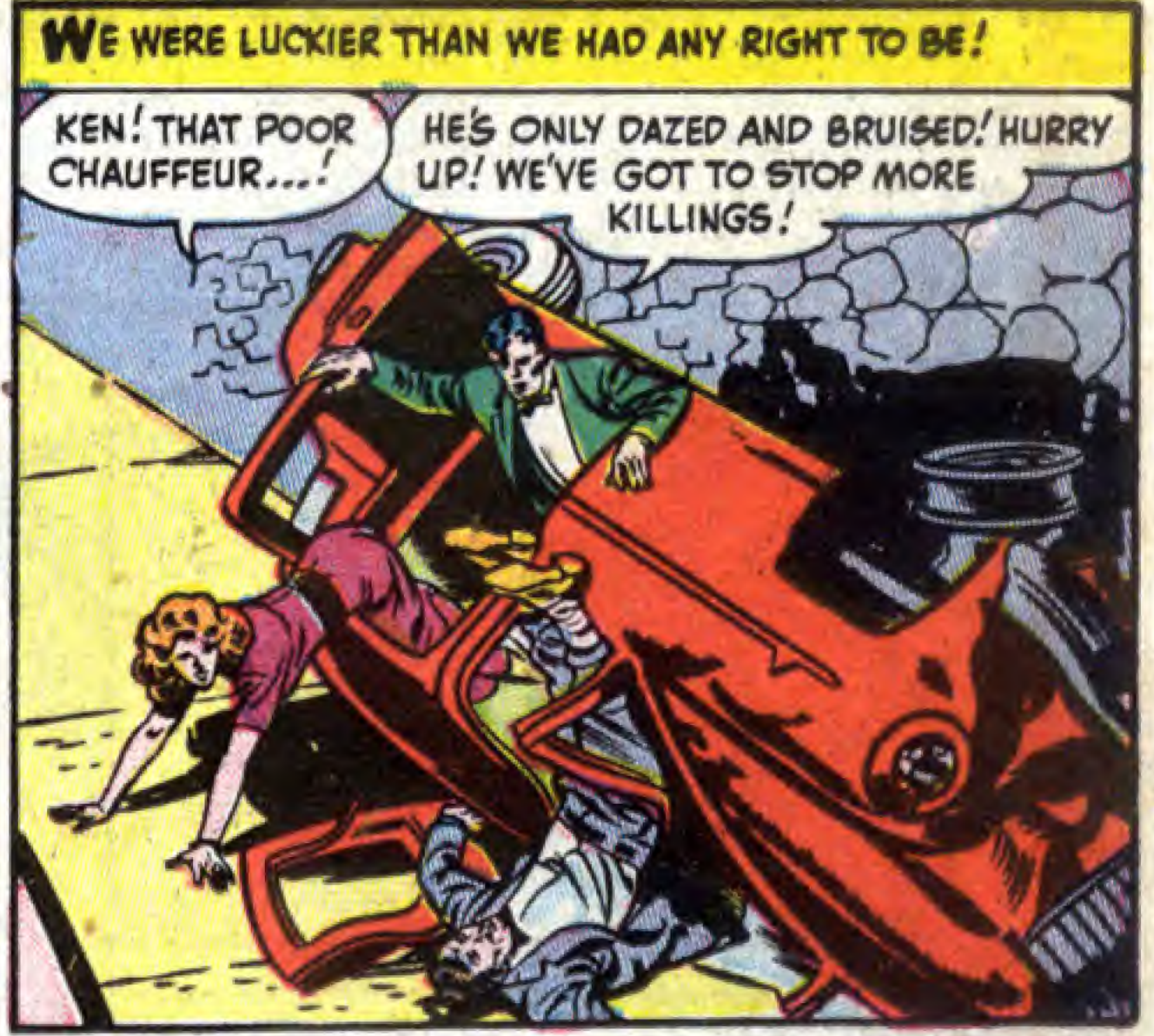
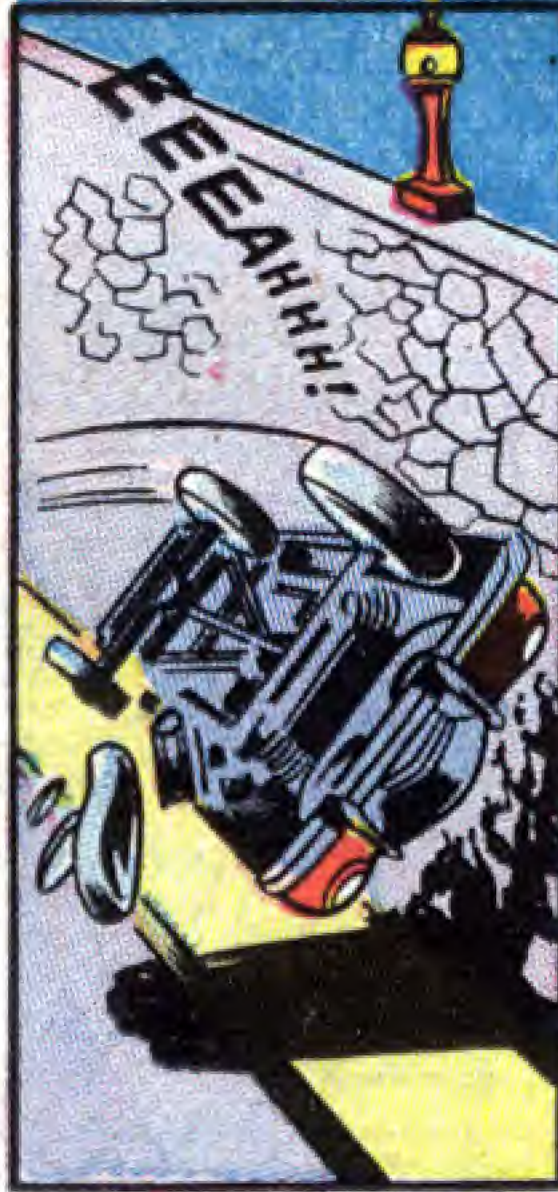
AND THEN IT HAPPENED...

OUR BRAKES ARE GONE! I CAN'T STOP THE CAR!



EEEEK! WE'LL SMASH RIGHT INTO THOSE CARS DOWN THERE!









YOU'RE INSANE!

YOU ARE! YOU'VE PROBABLY STOLEN MYRA'S FORTUNE AND HAD TO GET RID OF HER BEFORE HER BIRTHDAY! DUCRIE GAVE YOU THE SCHEME UNWITTINGLY!...



THAT SWIMMING POOL ACCIDENT WAS PROBABLY GENUINE! DUCRIE BEGAN TO TALK ABOUT HIS CURSE... SO YOU ARRANGED MORE ACCIDENTS AND HE OBLIGINGLY TOOK THE BLAME! HE WAS YOUR INNOCENT DUPE!



TONIGHT YOU WERE ON THE ROOF, WATCHING THE BRIDGE TO SEE MYRA KILL HERSELF AS YOU PLANNED! THEN YOU SAW ME SAVE HER SO YOU ARRANGED ANOTHER ACCIDENT...

THIS IS TOO RIDICULOUS TO ANSWER! HOW COULD I?



EASY, FOR A CRACK HUNTER WITH A HIGH-POWERED RIFLE AND TELESCOPE SIGHT! YOU SHOT MY FRONT TIRE! AND THEN YOU MADE THE SLIP THAT GAVE YOU AWAY...



HOW DID YOU KNOW I WAS THE FELLOW WHOSE CAR WENT OFF THE BRIDGE? YOU SPOKE OF IT WHEN WE CAME TONIGHT! THAT GAVE YOU AWAY!

I REALIZED THAT BUT I HOPED YOU WOULDN'T NOTICE! NOW YOU'LL ALL DIE... AND THIS FOOL, DUCRIE, WILL GET THE BLAME!



HE'S THROUGH TAKING THE BLAME! IT'S ALL YOURS, RAT!

EEEEAAHHH!



NOW, YOU SKUNK, I'M GOING TO...!

UH-UH-UH! SAVE HIM FOR US, KEN! WE FOUND A RIFLE SLUG IN YOUR TIRE! WE'LL MATCH THAT TO HIS RIFLE AND BURN HIM, BUT GOOD!

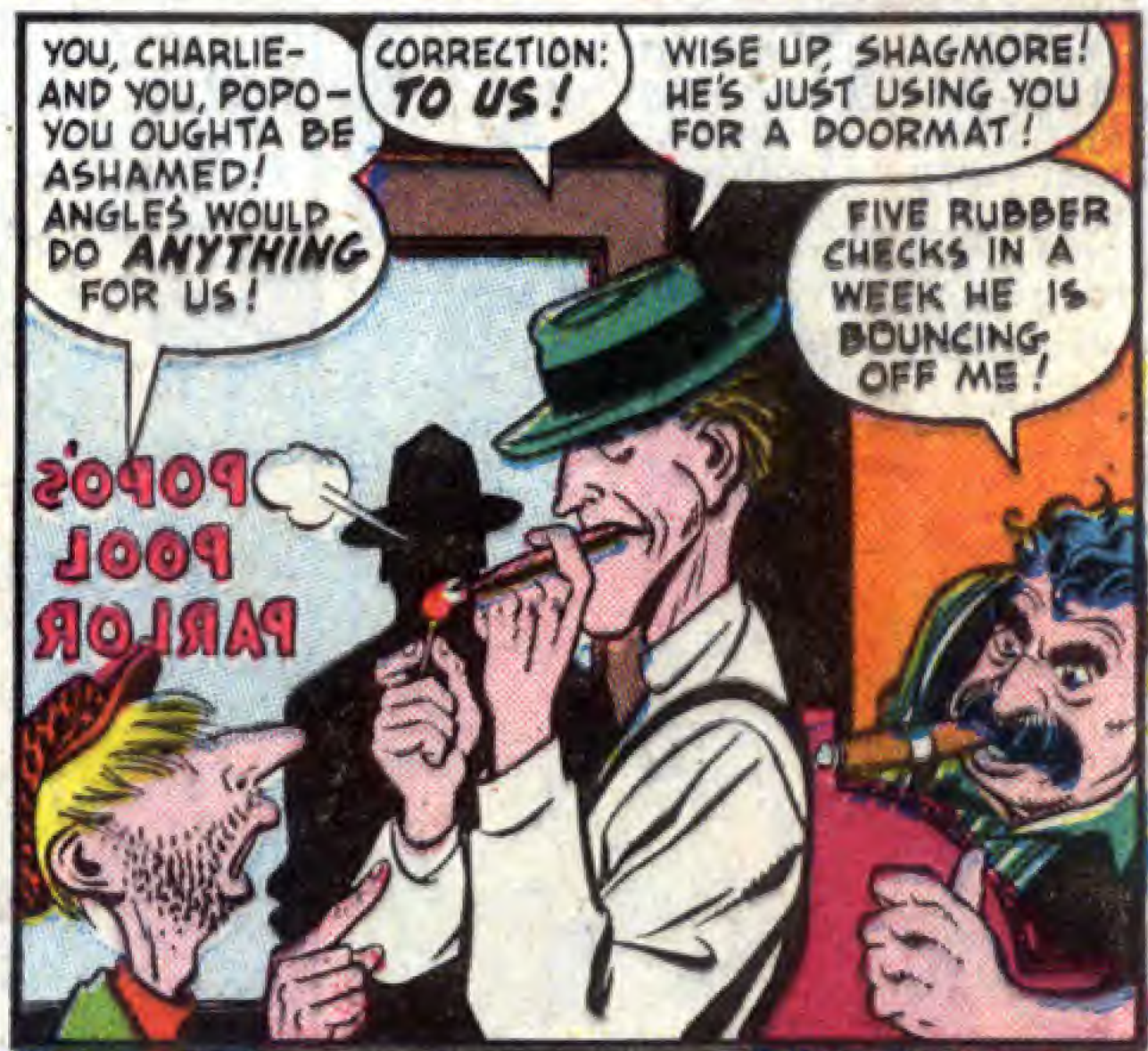
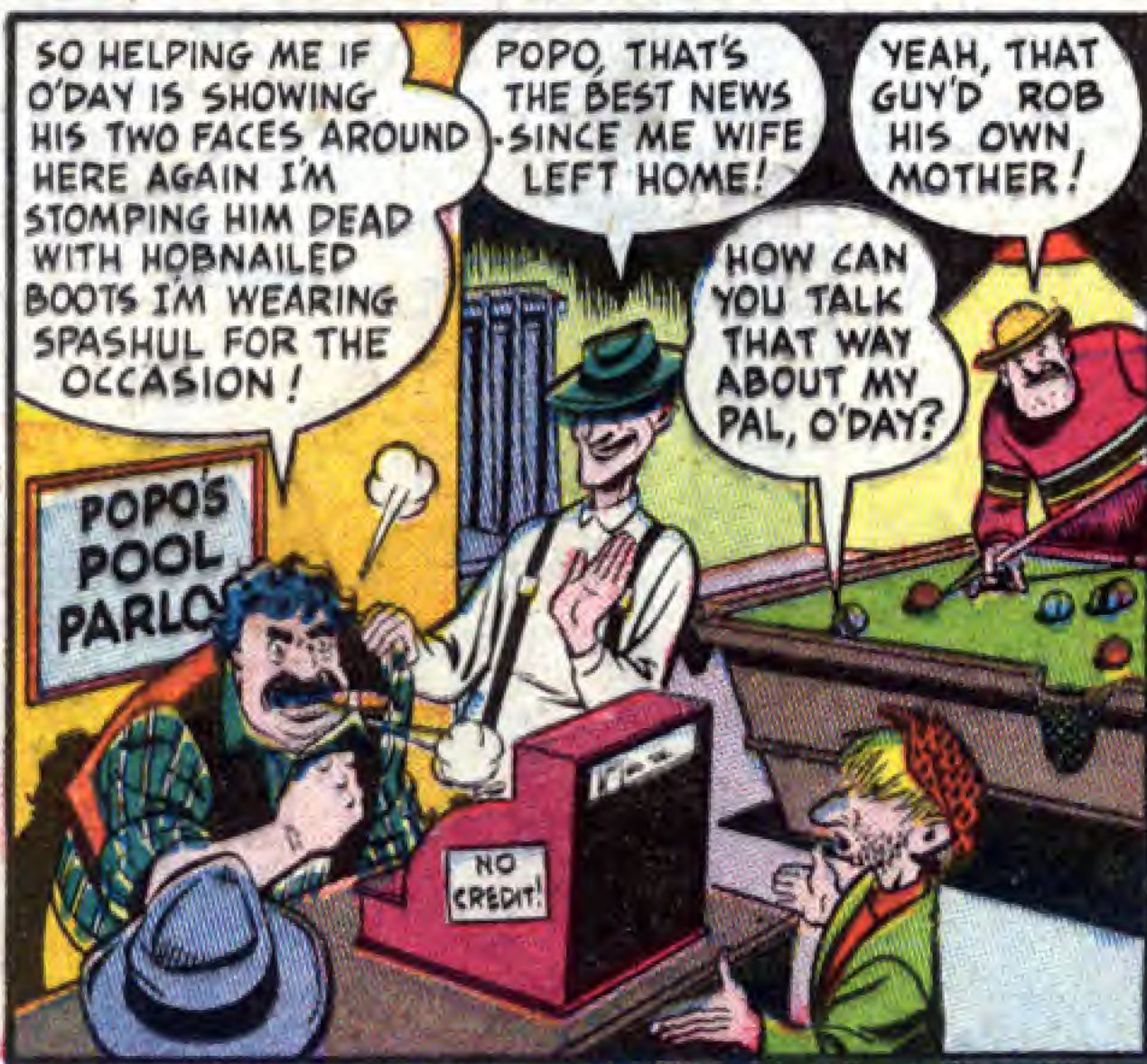


OH, KEN, YOU BIG WONDERFUL DARLING! MYRA'S GOING TO MARRY COUNT DUCRIE! THEY OWE THEIR HAPPINESS TO YOU!

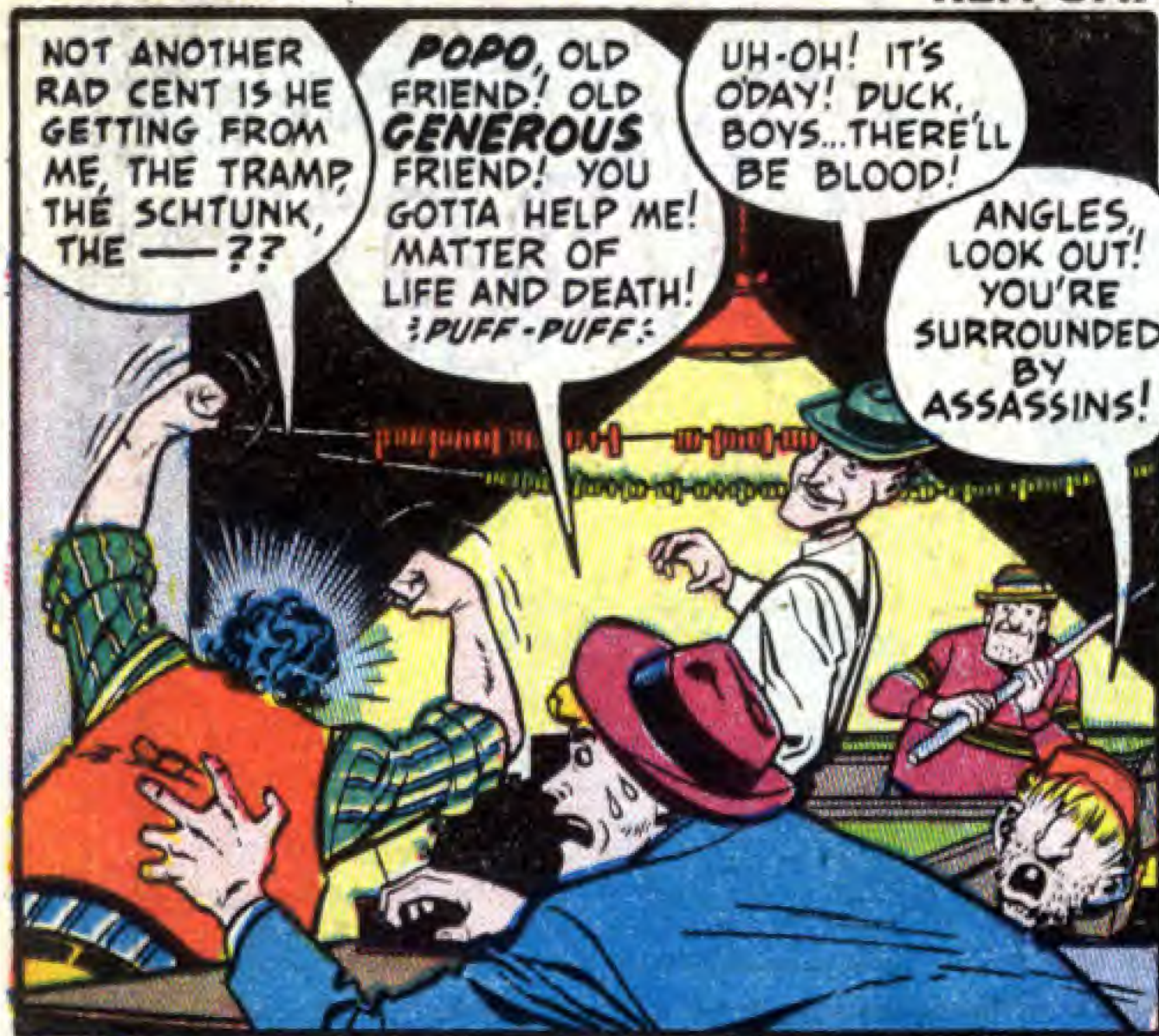
SWELL! REMEMBER THAT NEXT TIME YOU GET ON YOUR HIGH HORSE BECAUSE I DON'T FALL FOR YOUR SCREWY IDEAS, PRECIOUS! NOW LET'S GO HOME AND FORGET IT ALL!



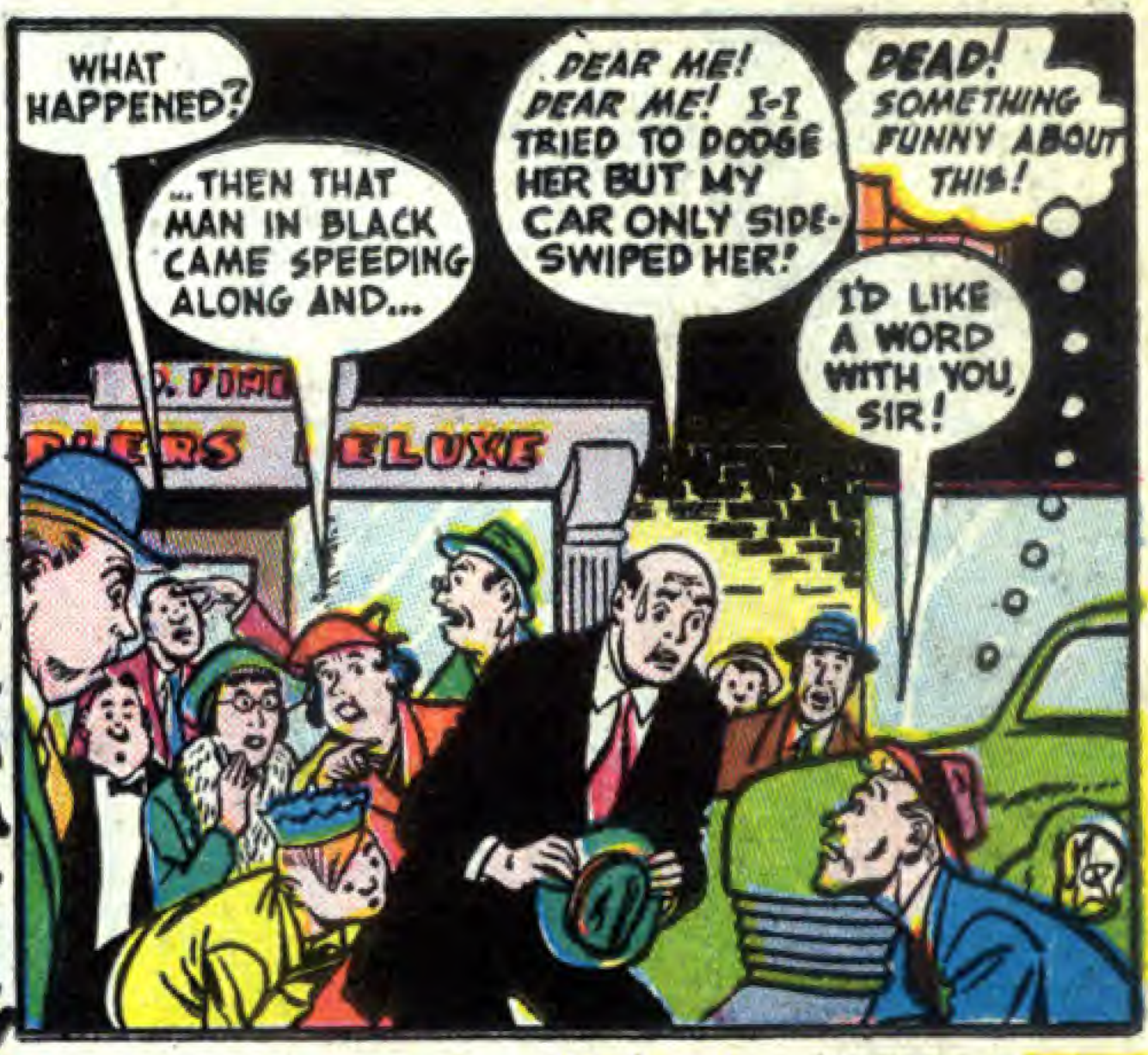
# ANGLES—O'DAY



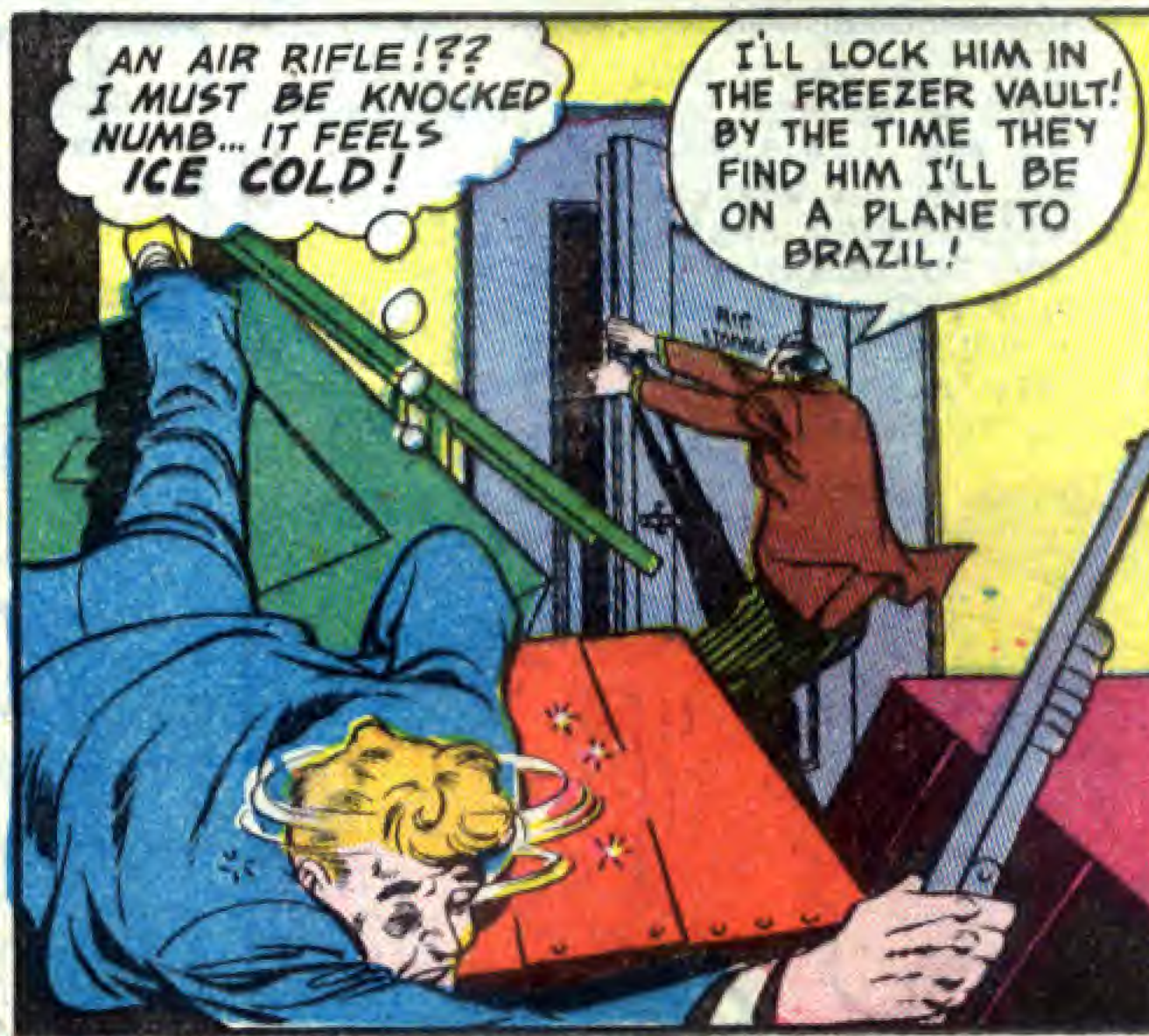
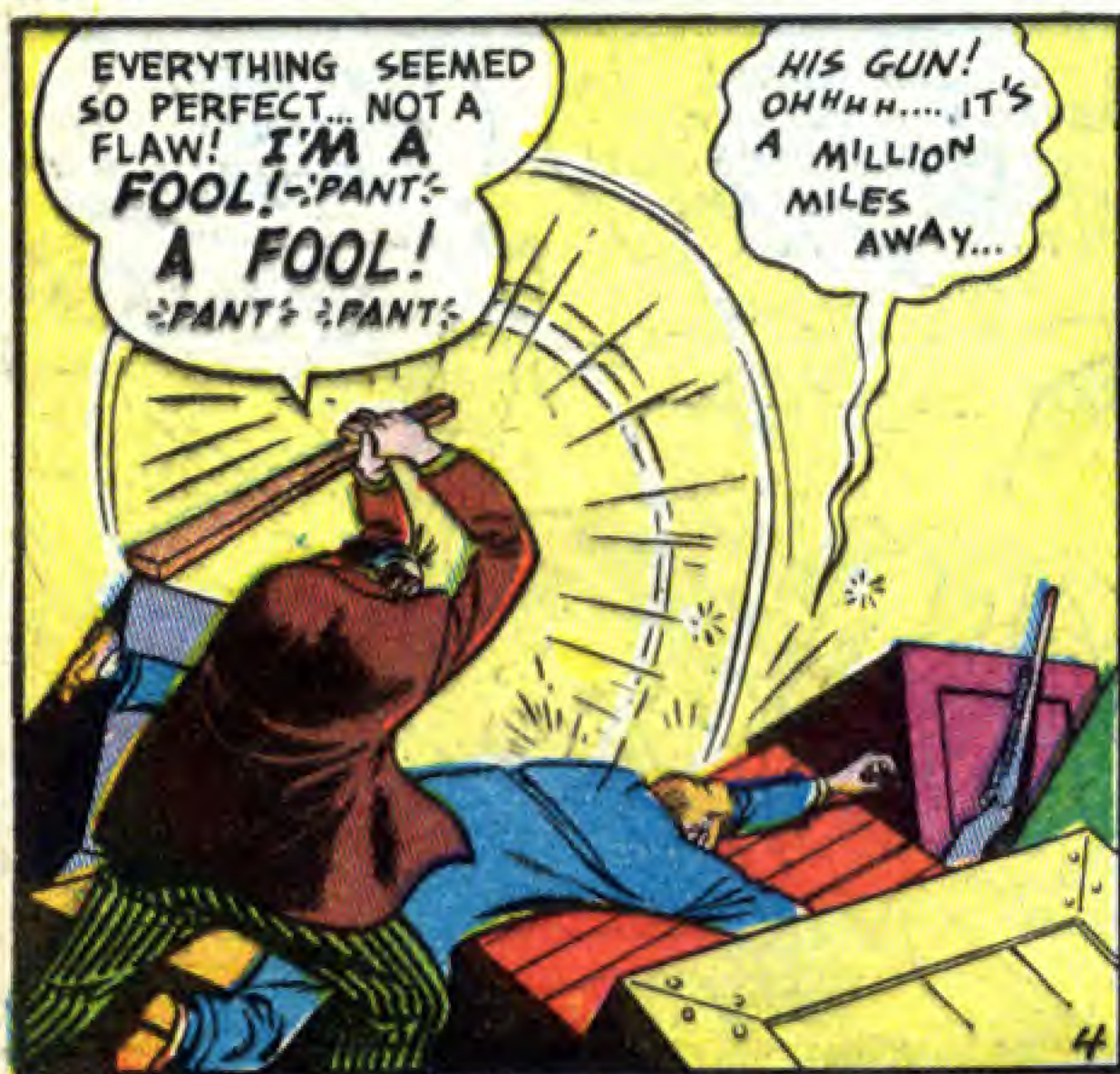
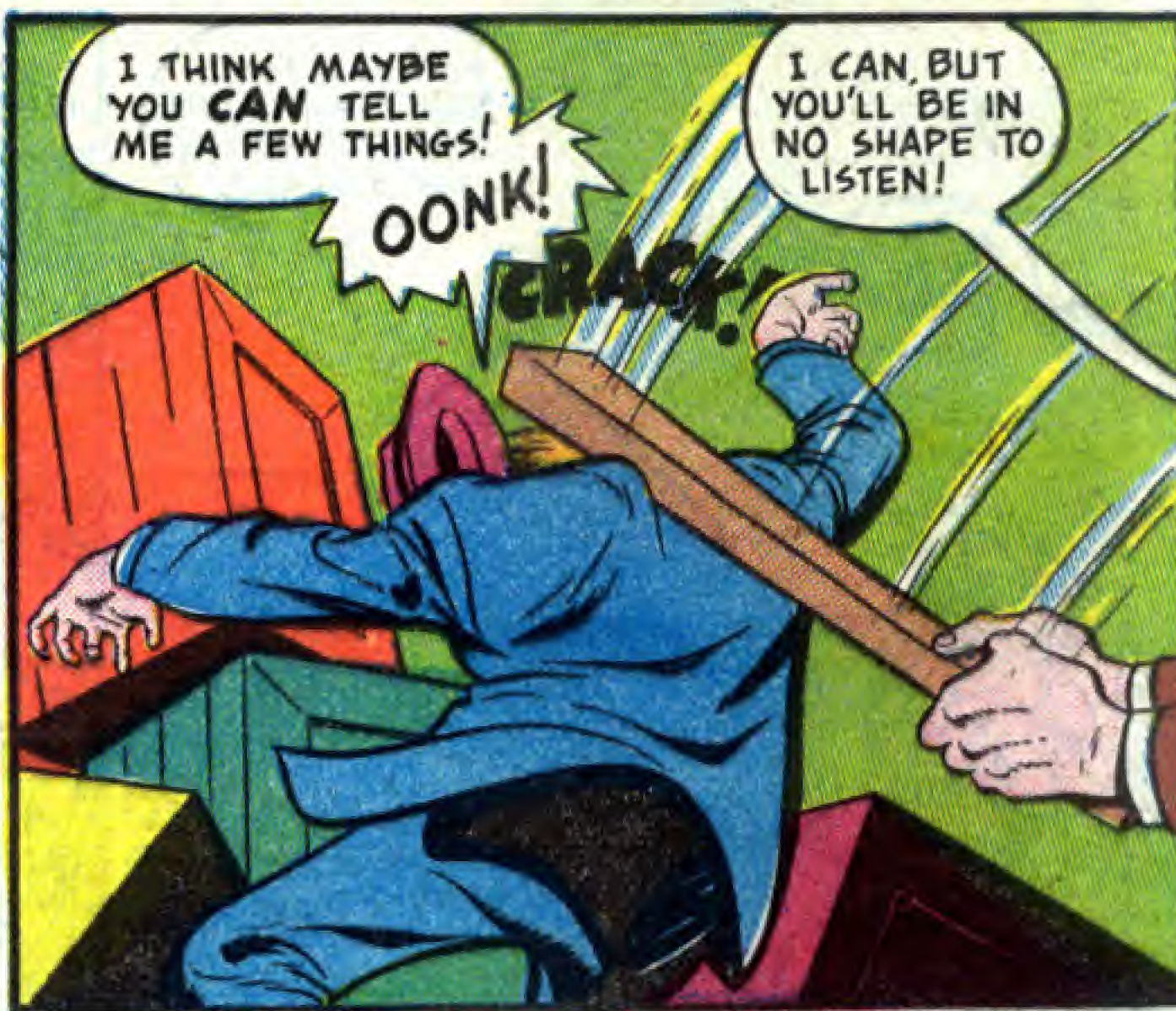




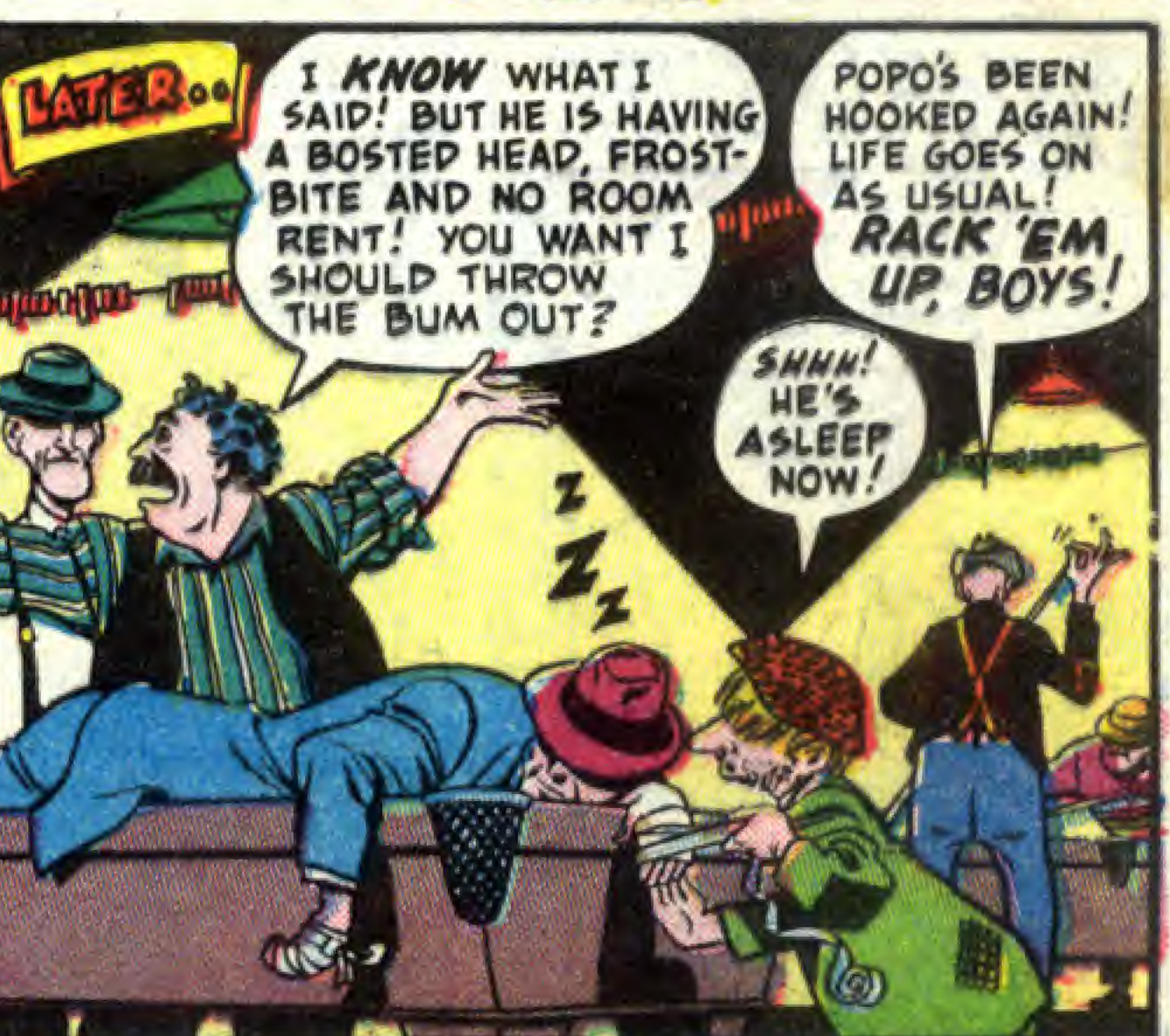
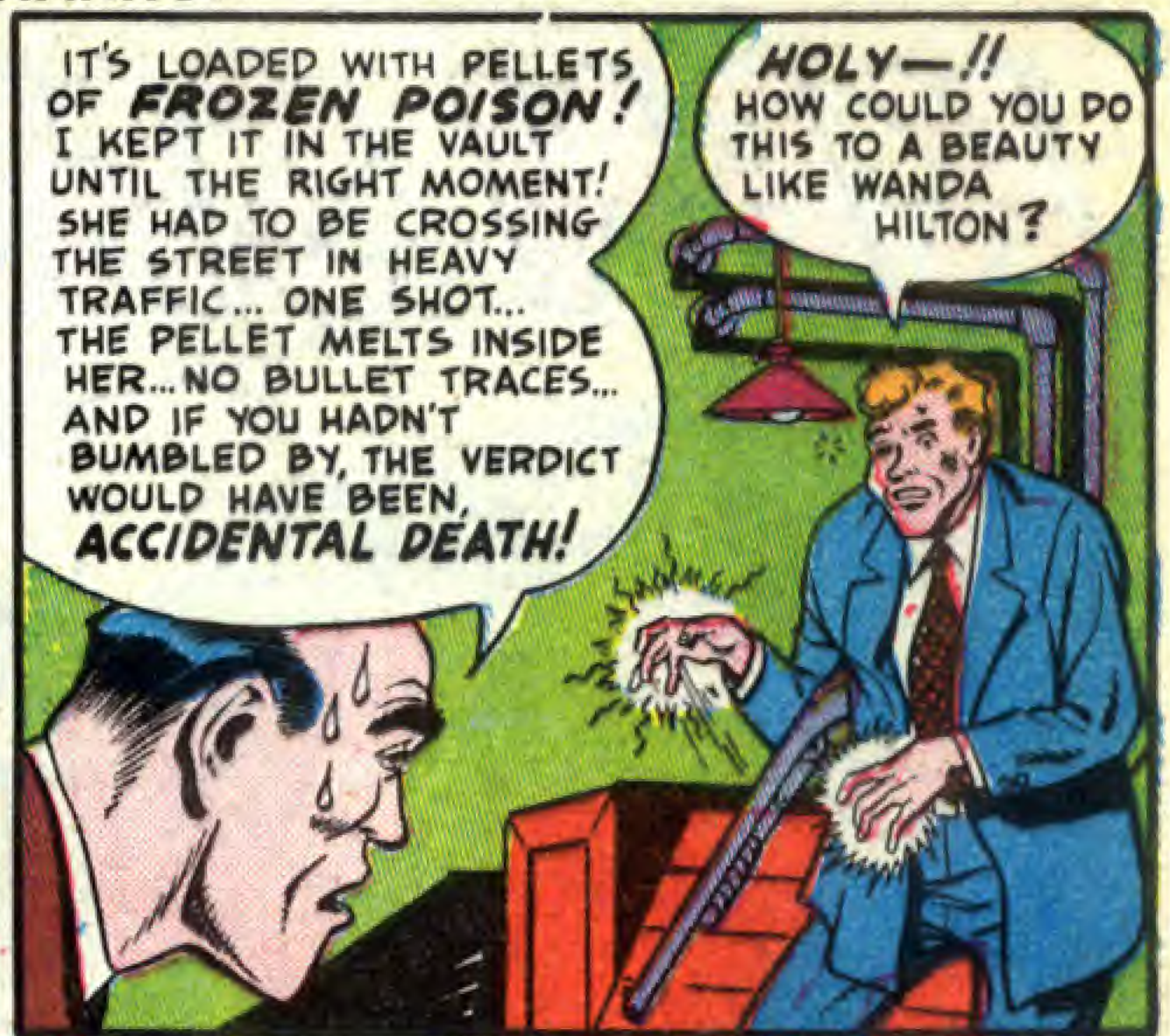
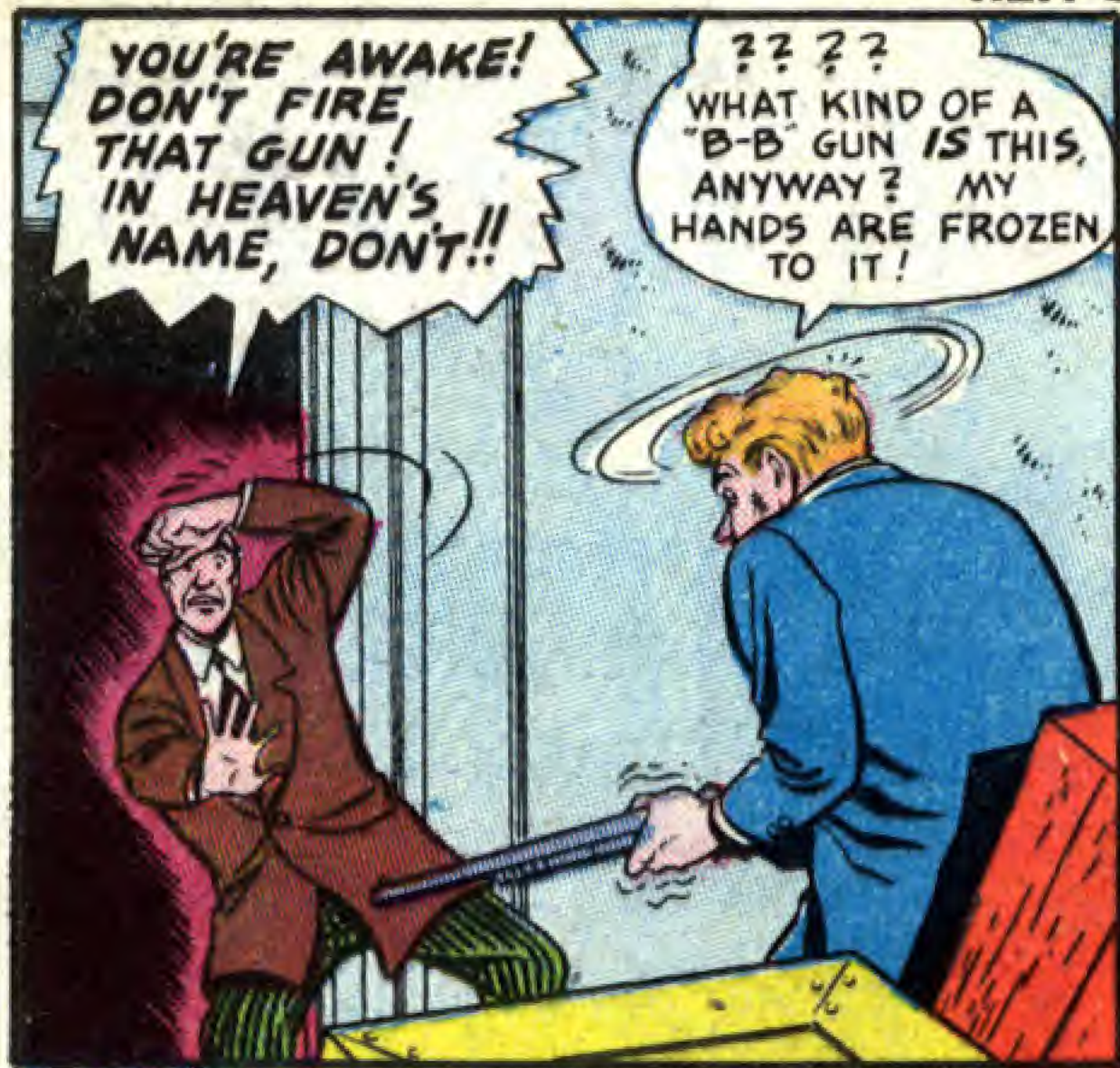






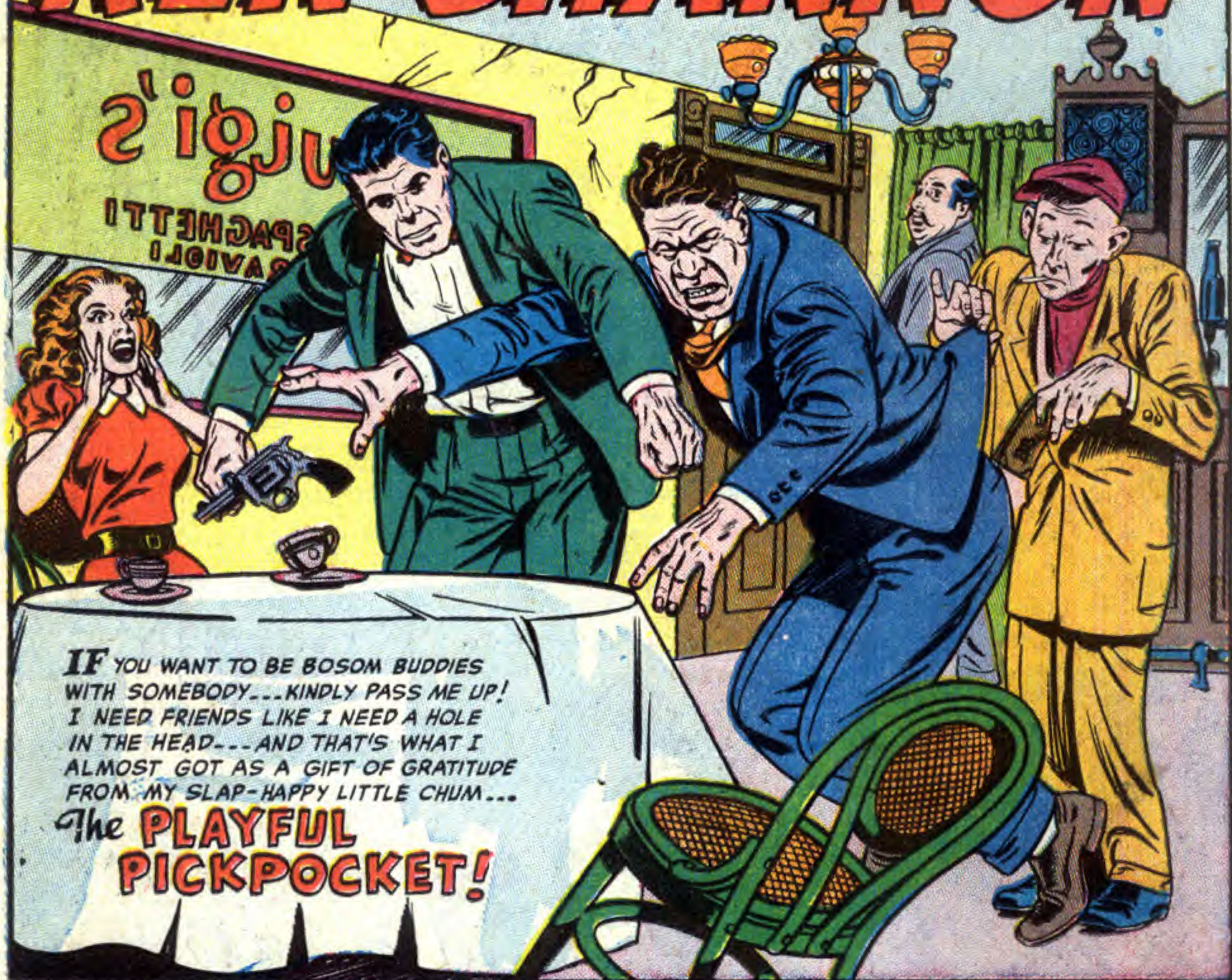




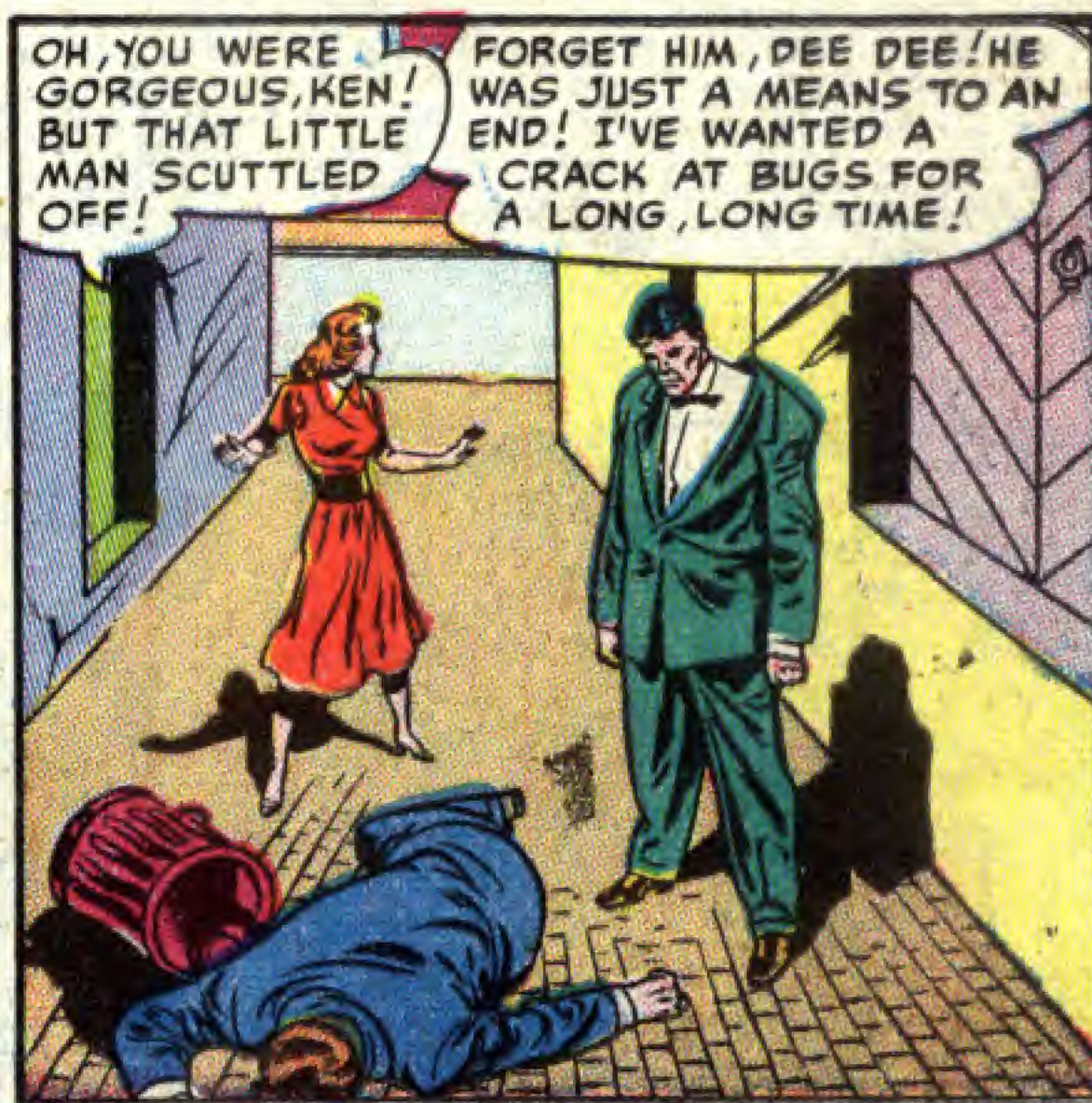




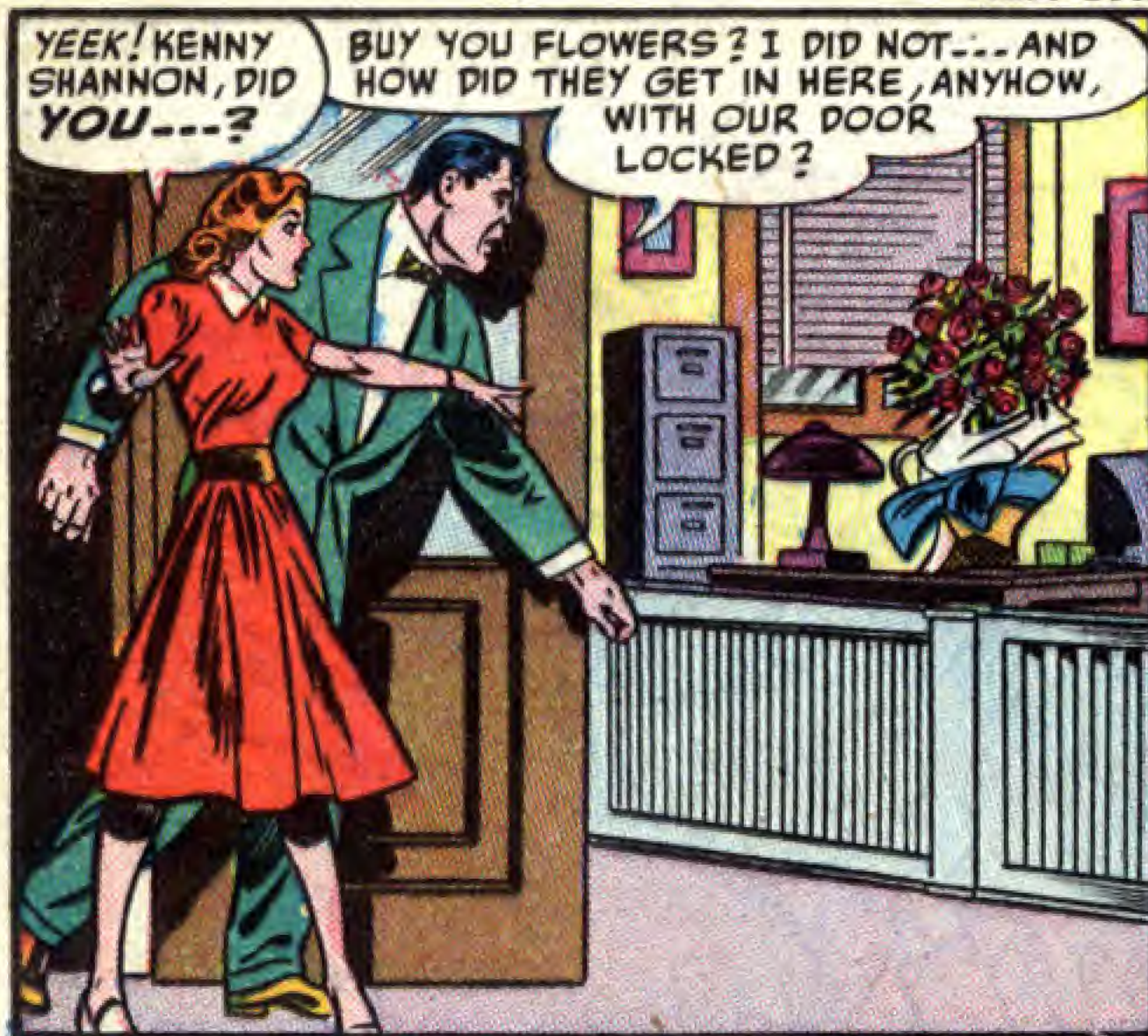
# KEN SHANNON





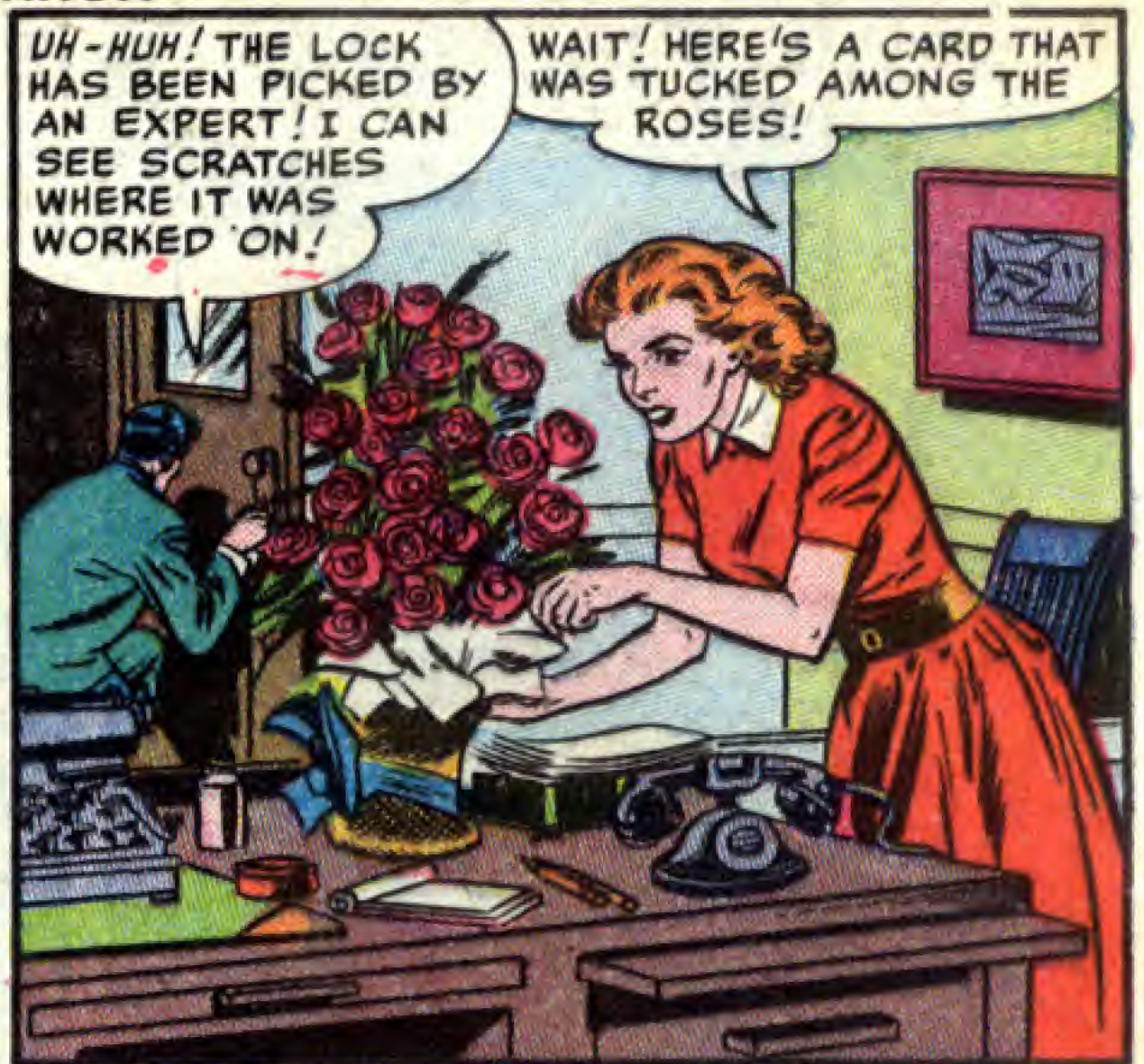






YEEK! KENNY SHANNON, DID YOU...?

BUY YOU FLOWERS? I DID NOT... AND HOW DID THEY GET IN HERE, ANYHOW, WITH OUR DOOR LOCKED?



UH-HUH! THE LOCK HAS BEEN PICKED BY AN EXPERT! I CAN SEE SCRATCHES WHERE IT WAS WORKED ON!

WAIT! HERE'S A CARD THAT WAS TUCKED AMONG THE ROSES!



TEE-HEE! THIS IS CUTE! IT SAYS: 'WIT MY INTERNAL GRATITUDE AND UNDYIN' RESPECK! LOUIE THE LIFT!'

OWOOO! LOUIE THE LIFT... THE GUY THE COPS CALL THE PHANTOM PICKPOCKET! SO THAT'S WHO BUGS WAS BEATING UP IN THAT ALLEY!



IT WON'T BE SO CUTE IF THE COPS TRACE THOSE ROSES AND... **YIIII! WHAT'S THIS STRANGE WALLET DOING IN MY COAT POCKET?**



GRAWWK! IT'S BUGS BURGAN'S WALLET! THAT DIZZY LITTLE JERK SLIPPED IT INTO MY POCKET BEFORE HE SCRAMMED!

WASN'T HE SWEET, KEN? HE WANTED TO SHOW HIS GRATITUDE FOR YOUR RESCUE AND TOOK THE ONLY WAY HE KNEW HOW!



PLANTING STOLEN GOODS ON ME ISN'T MY IDEA OF A FAVOR! IF LOUIE... HEY! THIS LOCKER KEY FELL OUT OF BUGS' WALLET! UH-OH!



THE COPS THINK BIG AL'S BOYS KNOCKED OFF THAT MESSENGER LAST WEEK WITH A 100 GRAND IN BONDS! THE LOOT VANISHED!

KEN! YOU... YOU THINK THEY'RE HIDDEN IN A LOCKER, AND THAT'S THE KEY?

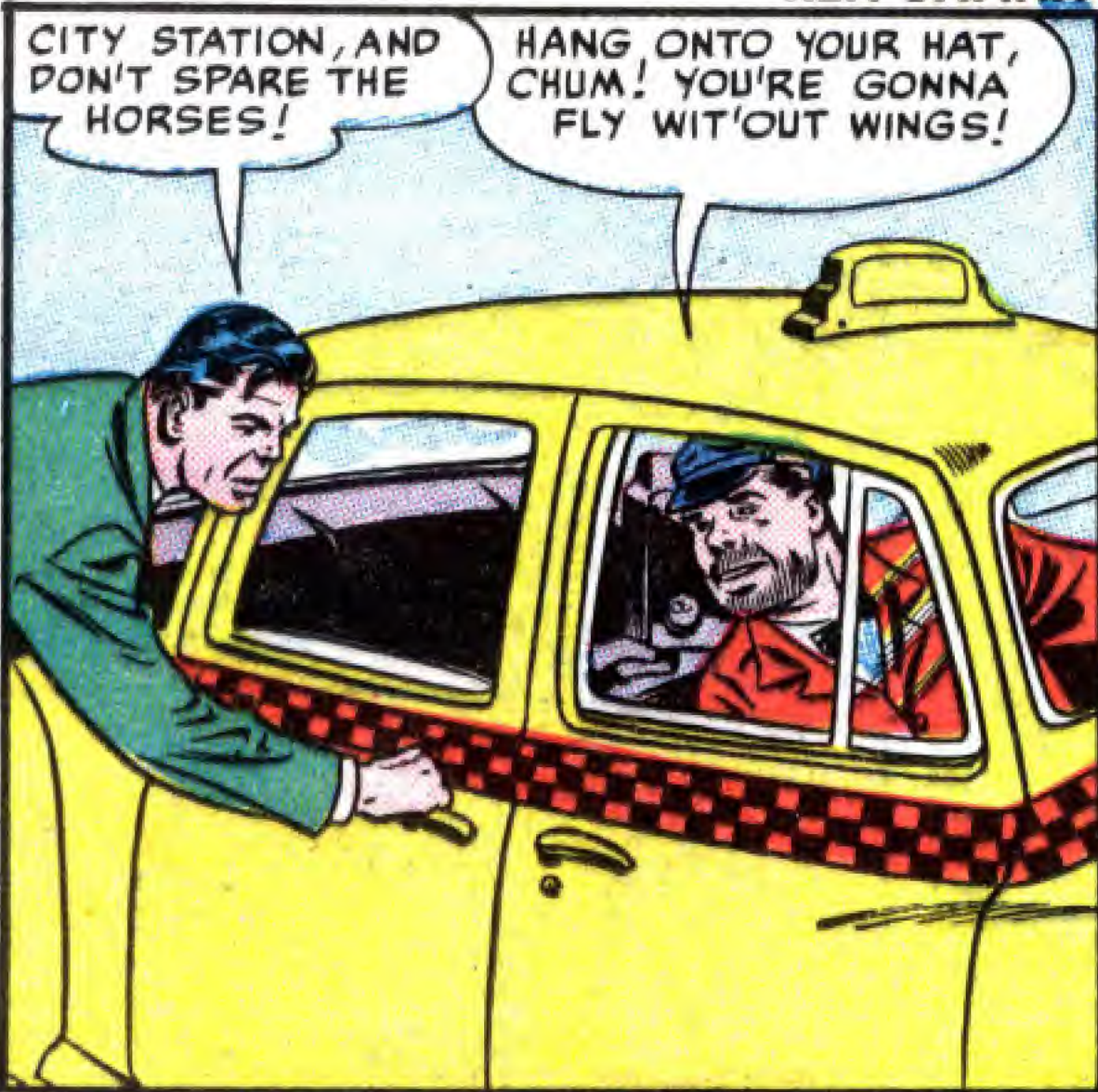


I DON'T THINK BUGS KEEPS HIS LUNCH IN A LOCKER! THIS COULD BE A BREAK FOR OUR SIDE, KITTEN!

BE C-CAREFUL, KEN! BIG AL IS A KILLER! THAT MESSENGER DIED!



I WAS EXCITED! ASIDE FROM A CHANCE TO NAIL BIG AL, THERE WAS A FAT REWARD FOR THOSE STOLEN BONDS!



CITY STATION, AND DON'T SPARE THE HORSES!

HANG ONTO YOUR HAT, CHUM! YOU'RE GONNA FLY WIT'OUT WINGS!

BROTHER! I ASKED FOR IT AND I GOT IT!

OOOO! WHAT'S THE TAB FOR THAT CHARIOT RIDE, THUNDER-BIRD?

NO TAB, MISTER SHANNON! ANY FRIEND O'LOUIE IS A FRIEND OF MINE, SEE? YUH DONE HIM A FAVOR TODAY! THE WOID IS OUT!



YUH GOT ANY-BODY YUH WANT BEAT UP, JUST ASK FOR MORIARITY, SEE!

I'LL KEEP IT IN MIND, MORIARITY! BUT WHY BEAT 'EM UP WHEN YOU CAN SCARE 'EM TO DEATH IN THREE BLOCKS!



There WAS A TRAVELING BAG IN THE LOCKER! ONE PEEK AND I KNEW I'D HIT THE JACK-POT!

BINGO! SHANNON, OLD BOY, DON'T LOOK NOW BUT LUCK IS PERCHED RIGHT ON YOUR SHOULDER!



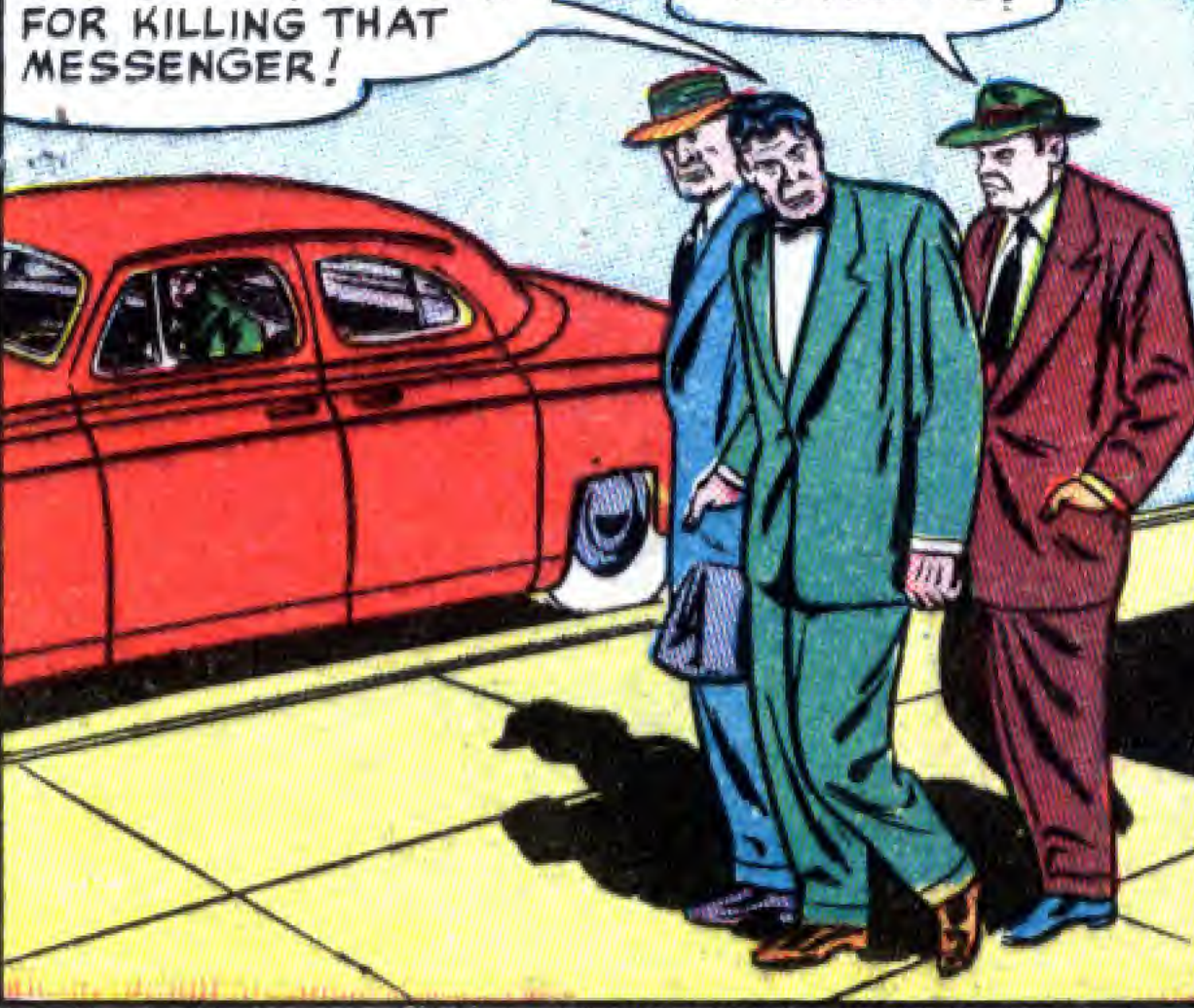
I DIDN'T HAVE TIME TO PAT MYSELF ON THE BACK!

KEEP WALKING, SHANNON, AND NO TRICKS! JUST REMEMBER, WE GOT NOTHING TO LOSE NOW BY KNOCKING YOU OFF RIGHT HERE!



YOU AREN'T KIDDING, AL! THOSE BONDS CAN BURN YOU BOTH FOR KILLING THAT MESSENGER!

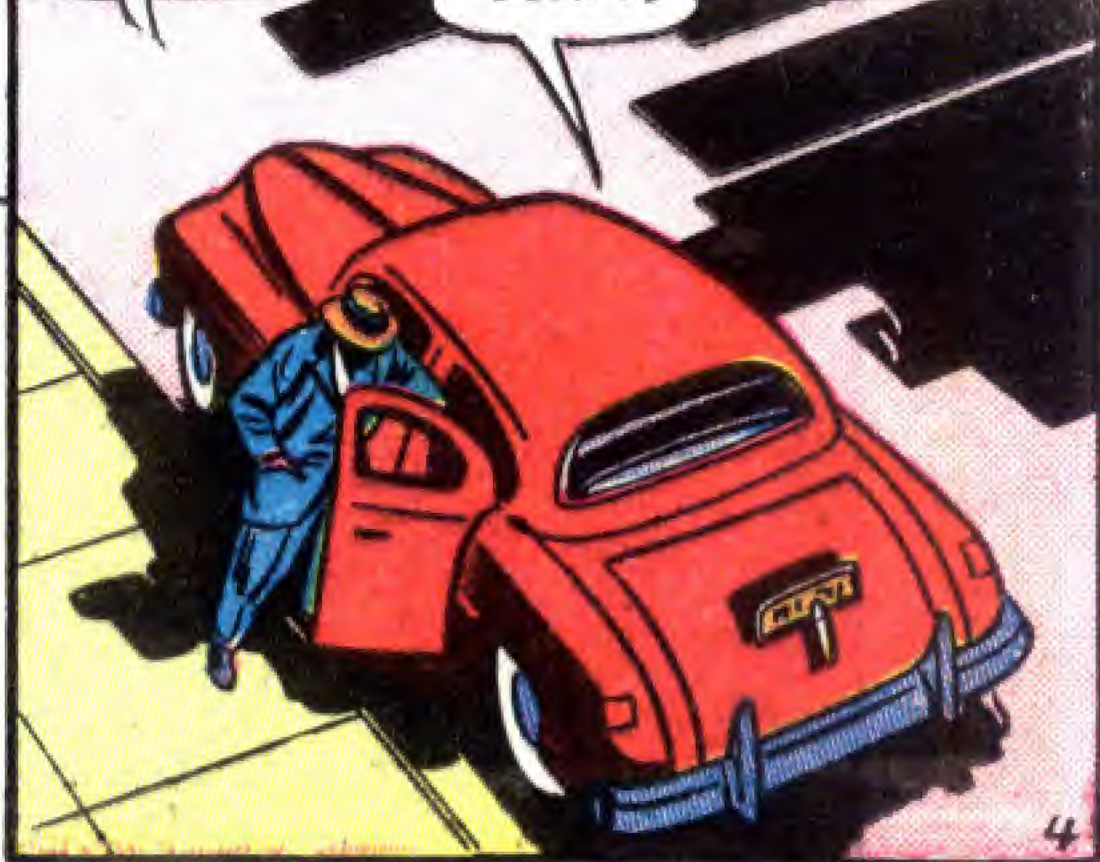
KEEP ASKIN' FOR IT, WISE GUY! GET IN THAT CAR AND NO YELLING!



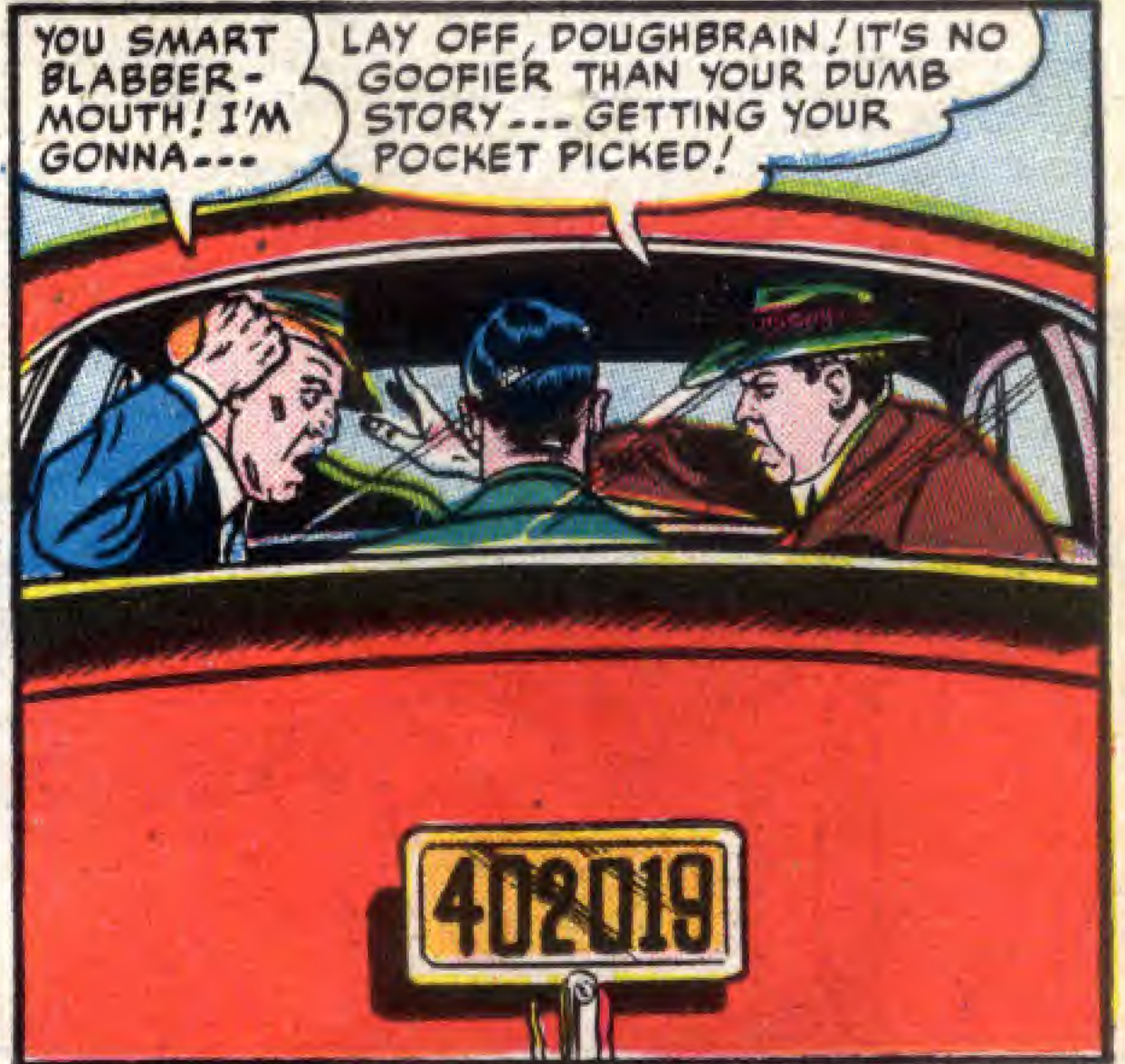
I'D HAVE GIVEN THE WHOLE REWARD FOR A SIGHT OF MORIARITY'S HOME-LY PUSS RIGHT THEN! BUT HE'D DRIVEN OFF---

WE BEEN WATCHIN' THAT LOCKER EVER SINCE I LOST THE KEY! NABBING YOU AT IT IS A PLEASANT SURPRISE!

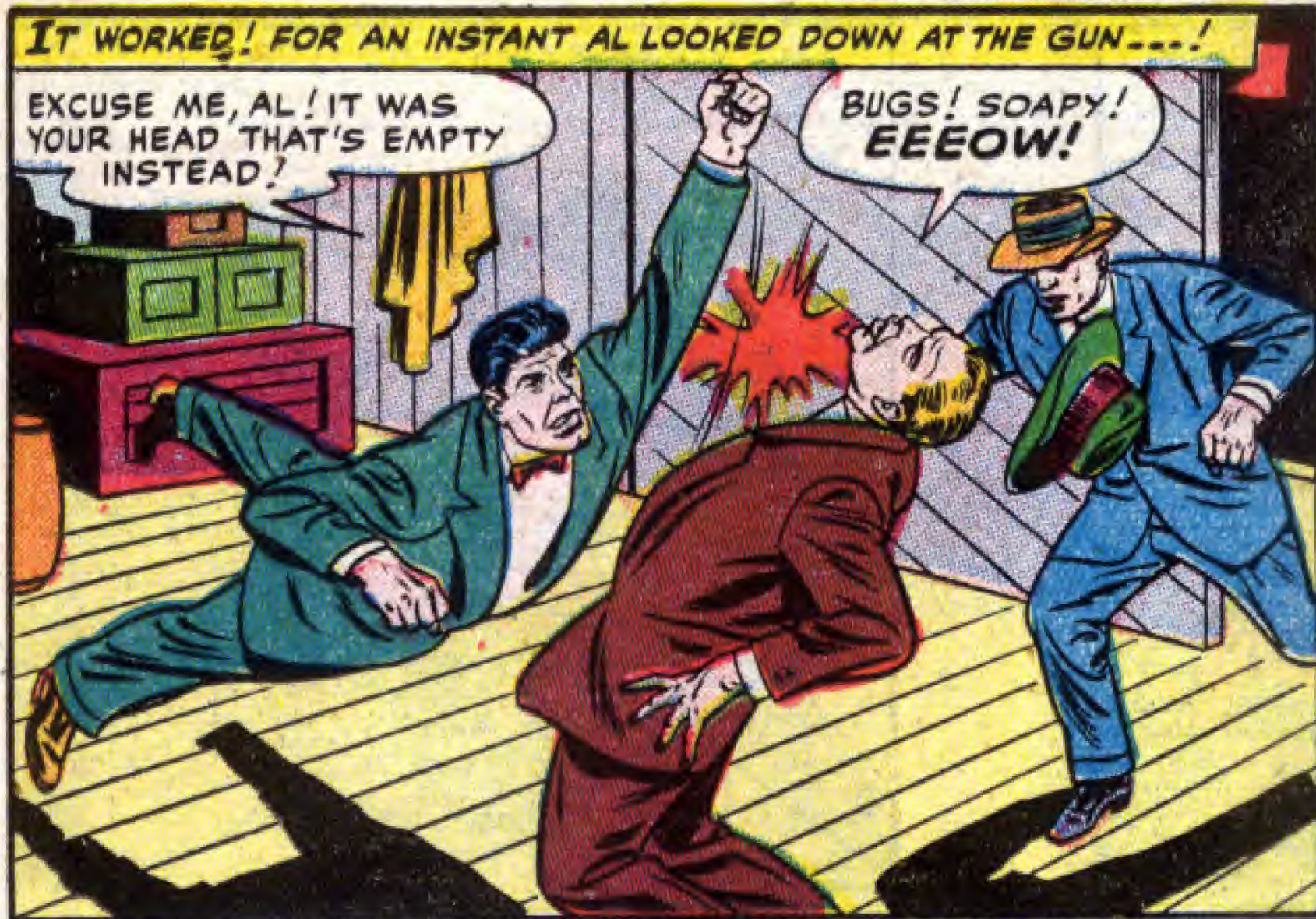
SHUT UP, STUPID! IF YOU'D HAD A BRAIN, WE WOULDN'T HAVE HAD THIS TROUBLE TO START WITH! GET GOING, SOAPY!













WHEN THE ROUTINE WAS OVER, I WENT BACK TO TELL DEE DEE I WAS STILL ALIVE!

---AND LOUIE JUST DRIFTED OFF LIKE THAT! HE WOULDN'T EVEN LET ME THANK HIM PROPERLY!

SUCH A SWEET LITTLE MAN! I'M SURE HE'S NOT REALLY A CROOK AT ALL---



JUST THEN MY DOOR CRASHED OPEN AND LIEU-TENANT ART CLYDE CAME CHARGING IN, PURPLE-FACED!

A FINE BUSINESS! BIG DEAL! IF I DIDN'T KNOW YOU SO WELL---

TSK-TSK! YOUR BLOOD PRESSURE, ART! WHAT'S BITING YOU?



THOSE STOLEN BONDS! THEY'RE TEN GRAND SHORT! SOMEBODY GOT AWAY WITH A WHOLE BUNDLE OF 'EM SOMEWHERE!

AWRRRK! LOUIE THE LIFT! HE TOOK HIS CUT RIGHT UNDER MY NOSE!



THAT CROOK! I'LL GET HIM! I'LL PUT OUT A PICKUP! I'LL POST A REWARD---

OVER MY DEAD BODY, ART! YOU LAY OFF LOUIE THE LIFT! HE BROKE THIS CASE AND SAVED MY LIFE!



HE EARNED HIS CUT! IF YOU'VE GOT TO PLAY COPPER, TAKE IT OFF MY REWARD!

OKAY, OKAY! BABY CROOKS IF THAT'S WHAT YOU WANT! WE'LL FORGET THE WHOLE DEAL! BUT IF I EVER GET MY HANDS ON LOUIE---



KEN, I COULD KISS YOU FOR STICKING UP FOR---EEK! WHO LEFT THAT ON MY DESK?

HAH! I'LL GIVE US THREE GUESSES! OPEN IT IF YOU FEEL STRONG!



A WALLET! THE MOST BEAUTIFUL WALLET I EVER SAW! IT'S FROM LOUIE TO YOU!

I WONDER WHERE HE SWIPED THIS ONE? UH-OH! SOMEBODY'S CARD IS STILL TUCKED IN THE POCKET!



LET'S SEE---PRESIDENT HARRY S. TRU---  
AWRRRK! OH, NOOO!





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KEN SHANNON

# THE DUMB CROOK

**I**NSPECTOR JIM WADE sat talking with young rookie detective Rocky King. "Rocky," he said, "the first thing you want to remember is that all crooks are dumb!"

"How do you figure it?" muttered Rocky. "Seems to me most of these guys are smart enough to keep us working all the time."

"They're dumb, I tell you," answered the Inspector. "If they weren't, they wouldn't be crooks." Just then the phone rang.

"Come on," he said to Rocky as he hung up the receiver. "Another pawnshop stick-up. It's the third in two days. Let's get going."

They left for the scene of the crime, in a very poor section of the city. The cop who patrolled that beat was standing guard outside the door waiting for their arrival.

"Hello, officer," greeted Wade. "Anything unusual about this?"

"Not that I can see," he said. "Just another hold-up by a heister."

Wade and Rocky entered the dim interior and found the proprietor pale and pacing the floor. "I was going about my business," he cried, "when all of a sudden I get a gun in my face. I put up my hands while the guy cleaned out the cash register and then reached in the safe for a tray of valuable jewelry. You gotta get it back!"

"We will," barked Wade. "What did this character look like?"

"He was . . . er . . . sort of average height, dark hair, wore a—a suit. I can't remember too much about him."

"Usual description," grunted Wade, giving the place a general glance. "No description at all. Rocky, get a list of the jewelry that's missing while I look around for clues. The jewelry may give us a lead since it's pretty hard to trace cash."

While the owner gave Rocky a listing of the pieces of jewelry as best he could remember them, Inspector Wade was wandering around the pawnshop, inspecting the counters, looking through the window, and finally examining some typewriters which were on a table for display. He stood there a minute and then walked over to the proprietor.

"I want to know exactly what happened," he said. "Did this guy just walk in and plant a gun in your face or what?"

"No," moaned the man who had been robbed. "No, he came in just like he was a customer. I was waiting on somebody else. So he walked around the shop and waited for me to finish, just like he wanted to buy something! He went over there and looked at the typewriters and I thought

maybe that was what he wanted to buy. I told him I'd be with him in a few minutes and he said that was okay and to take my time. So naturally, I didn't figure anything was wrong. When the other customer left, this guy pulled out his gun. He pushed it at me and told me to put up my hands. It was a holdup, he said. That's all!"

Wade went back to the table that held the typewriters. "Fooling around the typewriters, eh?" he asked.

"What are you trying to do, Wade?" laughed Rocky. "Think you can find fingerprints on typewriter keys? Even a dumb rookie like me knows that's not possible!"

"Don't give me a lot of gab, Rocky," growled Wade. "I'm a lot smarter than you are. And, like I told you, crooks are dumb. Come along and we'll have this one in stir in no time."

They stopped the car in front of a cheap rooming house. Wade didn't bother to knock. He simply barged in the front door and led Rocky up a set of rickety stairs. When they came to the third floor, he walked to the end of the hall, stood before a door and listened, then pulled his gun and motioned for Rocky to stay behind him.

He turned the doorknob, gave a shove with his shoulder, and burst into a shabby room. Rocky followed. They caught the occupant by surprise!

"Search the room," Wade ordered as he held the gun. "See what you find here. I think it may be what we're looking for!"

As Rocky searched through the dresser drawers he suddenly let out a yell! "Chief, here's all the jewelry from the pawnshop and a lot of other loot, too! Looks like we got our man!"

"I was sure we had," grinned the Inspector. "We'll take him to headquarters!"

At the police station, the man confessed to the three pawnshop robberies. Inspector Wade looked at Rocky with a satisfied smile on his face. Then they walked back to the Inspector's office.

"Okay," said Rocky, "I'll admit I'm in the dark. But I don't now how you did it. This guy seemed like a pretty smart crook to me. He didn't leave any clues."

"Rocky," laughed Wade, "remember that I told you all crooks are dumb? This was the dumbest one I ever met. No kidding! Know what that guy did?"

"No, of course I don't!" snapped Rocky, now a little annoyed.

"He was fooling around with those typewriters," explained Wade. "The darned fool unconsciously wrote his own name! You don't have to be smart to catch a dope like that, Rocky! You just have to keep your eyes open!"



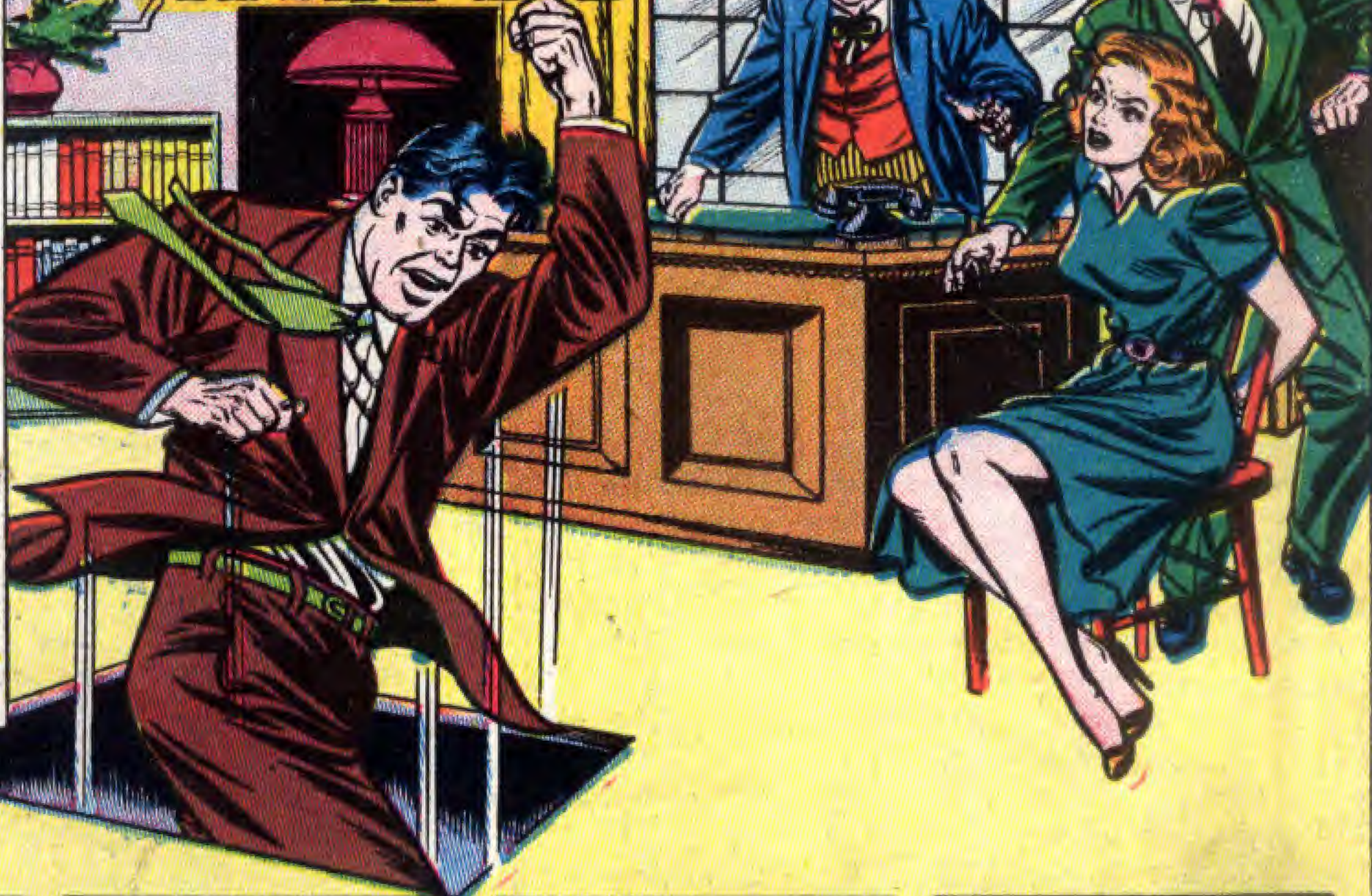
# KEN SHANNON

## PRIVATE EYE

ANOTHER CAPER LIKE THIS AND I'LL SETTLE FOR SOMETHING EASY-- LIKE FIREWALKING! WHAT IS IT THAT LURES FAIRLY SANE CHAPS INTO THE DETECTING BUSINESS? NOT RICHES! MAYBE IT'S THE THRILLS! IF YOU'RE PLANNING A CAREER AS A PRIVATE EYE, TAKE

A TIP FROM THAT SHAPPY KID SHANNON'S "MANHUNTING IN TEN EASY LESSONS", IF YOU WANT TO STAY ALIVE, DON'T FOLLOW THE BIRDS! YOU'LL SEE WHY IN...

### THE CARRIER PIGEON CASE!



**HENRY VAN ZANT**  
RETIRED FINANCIER  
WHO RAISES RACING  
PIGEONS--THE CLIENT  
I NEVER SAW!



**JEAN VAN ZANT**  
HIS LOVELY NIECE,  
WHOSE HONEYED LIPS  
DRIP VENOM!



**FATSO CASSIDY**  
A WALKING BARREL,  
MASTER MIND OF A  
CLEVER SMUGGLING  
RACKET!



**PETE LUNDT**  
FATSO'S BODYGUARD,  
WHOSE HEAD IS FATTER  
THAN HIS BOSS'S  
BELLY!

HEADING FOR THE OFFICE ONE MORNING, I MET DEE DEE DAWSON, MY SECRETARY, WAITING FOR THE LIGHT!

MORNING, KEN! I KNOW YOUR YEN FOR PIGEONS, BUT THE ONE YOU'RE STARING AT HAS FEATHERS!

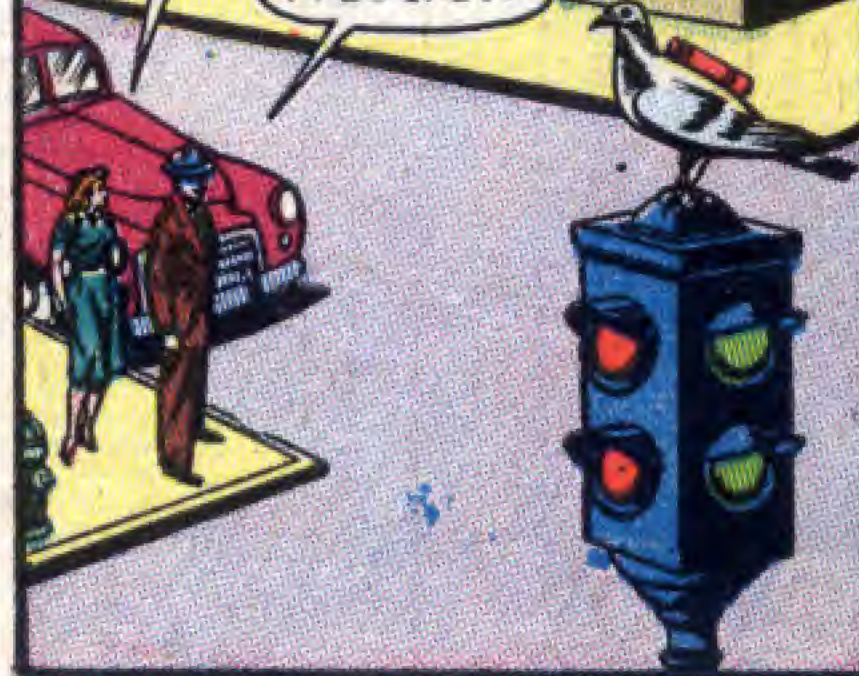
AND IS ALSO WEARING A LOCKET!

WHAT'S SO PECULIAR ABOUT A CARRIER PIGEON WITH A MESSAGE CYLINDER? IT'S COMMON!

AN ASTUTE OBSERVATION, MY PET! BUT LOOK! NOT *ONE* PIGEON, BUT *HUNDREDS* OF 'EM FLYING UP THERE--ALL WITH CYLINDERS!

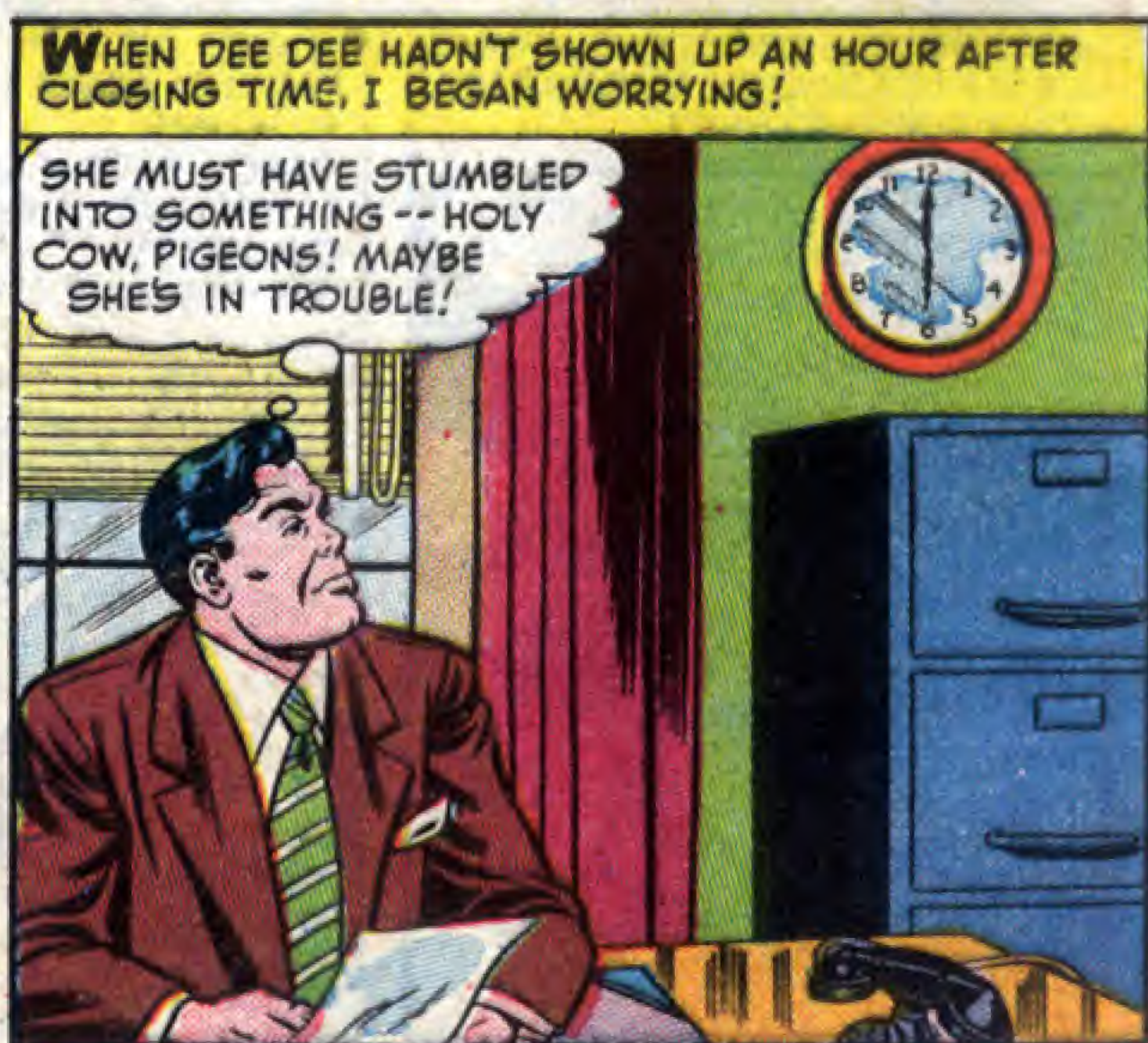
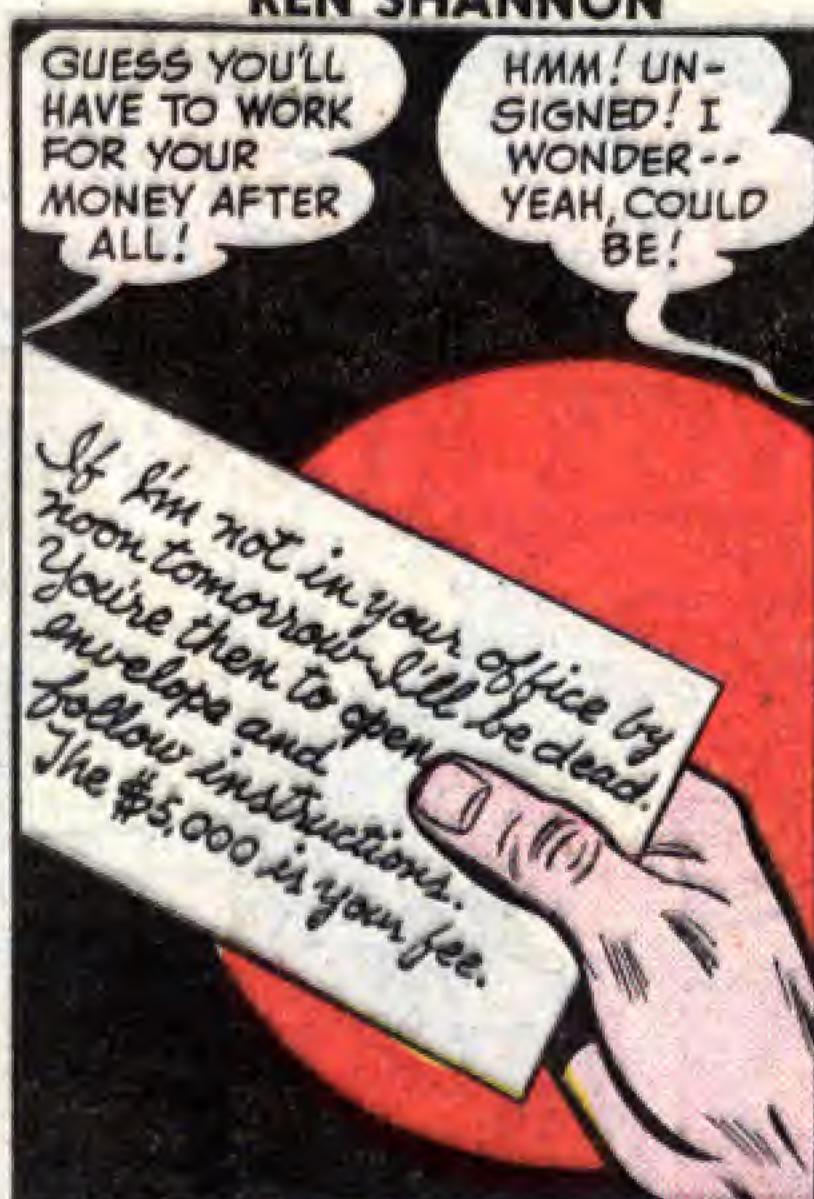
YOU WIN, SHERLOCK! WHY SHOULD *ALL* THOSE PIGEONS BE CARRYING MESSAGES--AND FLYING IN FROM THE OCEAN?

HMM! THIS MUST HAVE BEEN SHOVED UNDER THE DOOR LAST NIGHT!





# KEN SHANNON





THE NEXT MORNING I BOUGHT A TIMES AT THE OFFICE! REMEMBERING THAT FIVE GRAND, I EVEN TIPPED THE BOY!



KEEP THE WHOLE TWO-BITS, JIMMY!

GEE, THANKS, MR. SHANNON! ~~YULP~~ YUH FEEL AWRIGHT THIS MORNIN'?



WHEN DEE DEE DIDN'T GREET ME, I REALLY GOT PANICKY!

SOMETHING'S HAPPENED TO HER! I'LL CALL ART CLYDE!



HERE'S DEE DEE'S STORY, ALL RIGHT! SO SHE MUST HAVE WALKED AWAY FROM VAN ZANT'S!



CRIPES! SHE HIT ON THE VERY THING I HAD IN MIND! WITH THIS STORY ON THE STREET, NO TELLING WHAT--

Dr Ephraim Pillicuddy announced today that the intelligence of the ...therefore, homing pigeons offer an excellent means of smuggling.



ART CLYDE OF HOMICIDE DIDN'T SHARE MY ANXIETY!

LOOK, KEN, DEE DEE SIMPLY WALKED OUT ON YOU. ANYWAY, THIS IS NOT MISSING PERSONS! SHE'LL WANDER IN!

THIS ISN'T FUNNY, ART! READ HER STORY IN THE TIMES! THEN BEAT IT OUT TO VAN ZANT'S!



I WAITED UNTIL NOON, THEN GOT OUT THAT SEALED ENVELOPE!

HE SAID IF HE HADN'T SHOWN AT NOON, HE'D BE DEAD! SO I MIGHT AS WELL SEE HOW I'M TO EARN THAT FEE!



IT WAS DYNAMITE! BESIDES THE LETTER, THERE WAS A LIST OF NAMES --BIG NAMES IN THE GANG WORLD!

VAN ZANT! MY GOSH! NOW THE PATTERN FALLS INTO PLACE!

...gang headed by Cassidy using my pigeons to smuggle gems or dope off ships. I'm demanding a showdown today. Please go to my home immediately.  
Henry Van Zant



**T**WENTY MINUTES LATER I WAS BEING USHERED INTO THE SWANK VAN ZANT RESIDENCE BY A LUSCIOUS BABE!



I'D LIKE TO SEE MY CLIENT, HENRY VAN ZANT!

UNCLE HENRY ISN'T HERE RIGHT NOW, BUT PLEASE COME IN! I'M HIS NIECE, JEAN VAN ZANT!



WHILE I WAIT FOR YOUR UNCLE, MISS VAN ZANT, COULD I SEE HIS RACING PIGEONS?

SURELY! I'LL TAKE YOU OUT TO THE LOFT! EVERYONE'S INTERESTED IN UNCLE'S PIGEONS!

**I**T WAS SOME LOFT! AND THE FAT GUY AT WORK WAS NONE OTHER THAN FATSO CASSIDY, AN APE I'D ONCE HELPED TO CONVICT!

SIGHT, MISS VAN ZANT! BUT WHAT'S IN THE CYLINDERS?

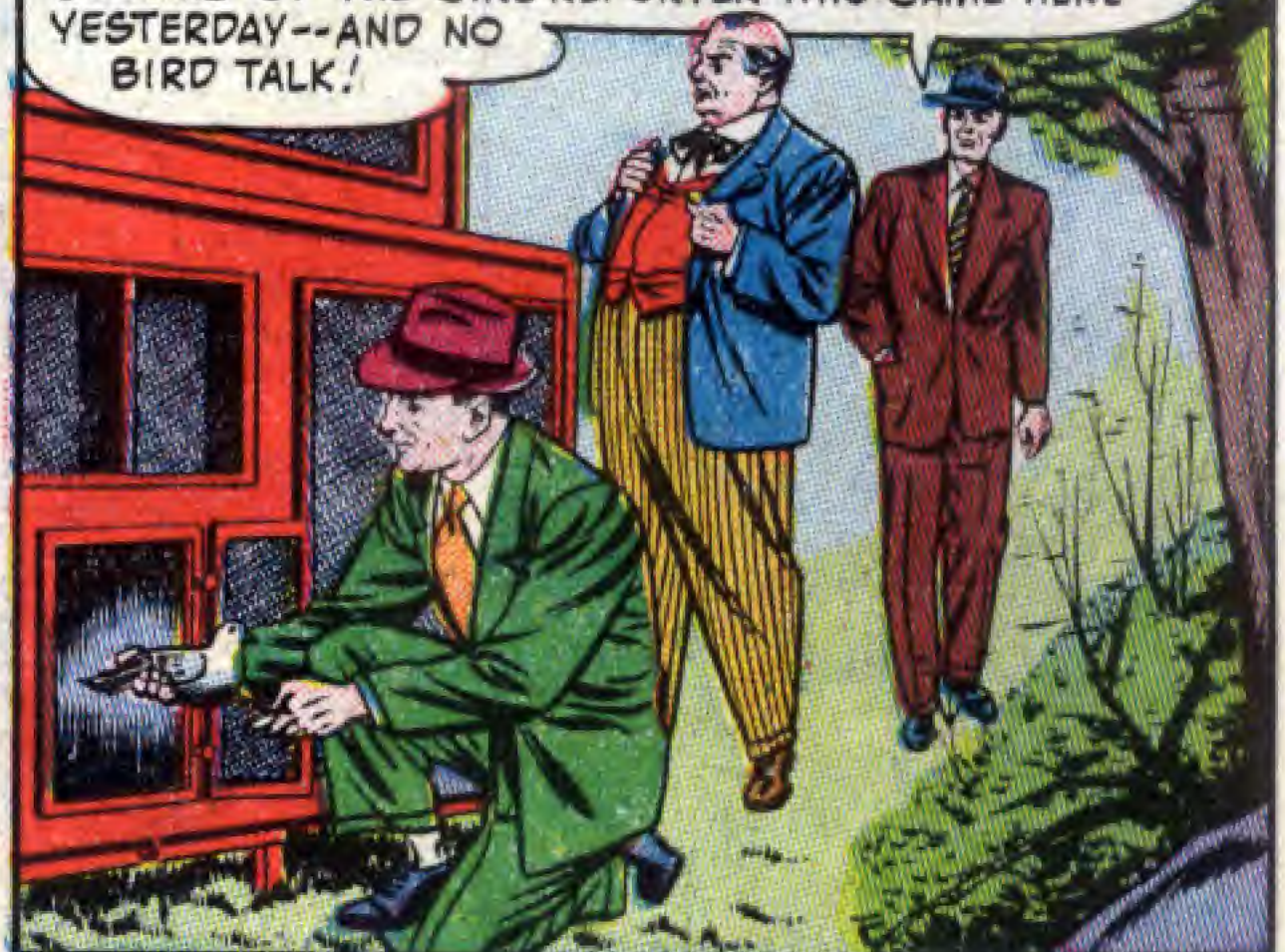
AN INSPIRING

MR. CASSIDY WILL EXPLAIN! NOW I HAVE SOME PHONE CALLS TO MAKE, IF YOU'LL EXCUSE ME!



**I** DECIDED TO CALL FOR MR. CASSIDY'S EXPLANATION!

INTERESTING WORK YOU'RE DOING, FATSO! BUT WHAT BECAME OF THE GIRL REPORTER WHO CAME HERE YESTERDAY--AND NO BIRD TALK!



WULP! WHA-- WHAT ARE YOU DOIN' HERE, SHANNON?

I'LL ASK THE QUESTIONS! WHERE'S MISS DAWSON? SHE CAME HERE YESTERDAY AND GOT A STORY!



HOW SHOULD I KNOW? SHE CAME HERE AN' LEFT AGAIN-- SOMETHIN' YOU AIN'T GONNA DO, SHAMUS!

WHY, YOU OVER-STUFFED--



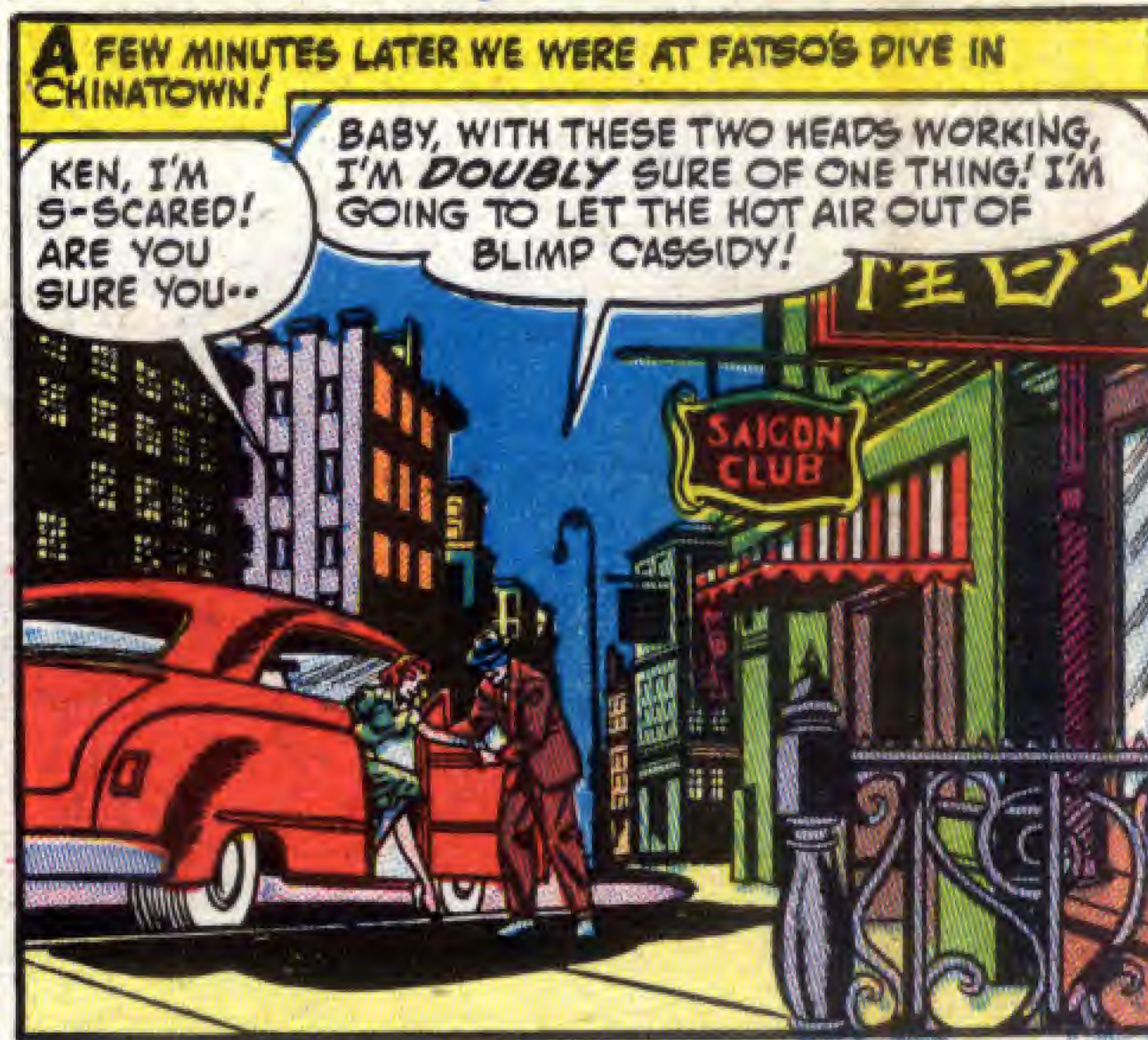
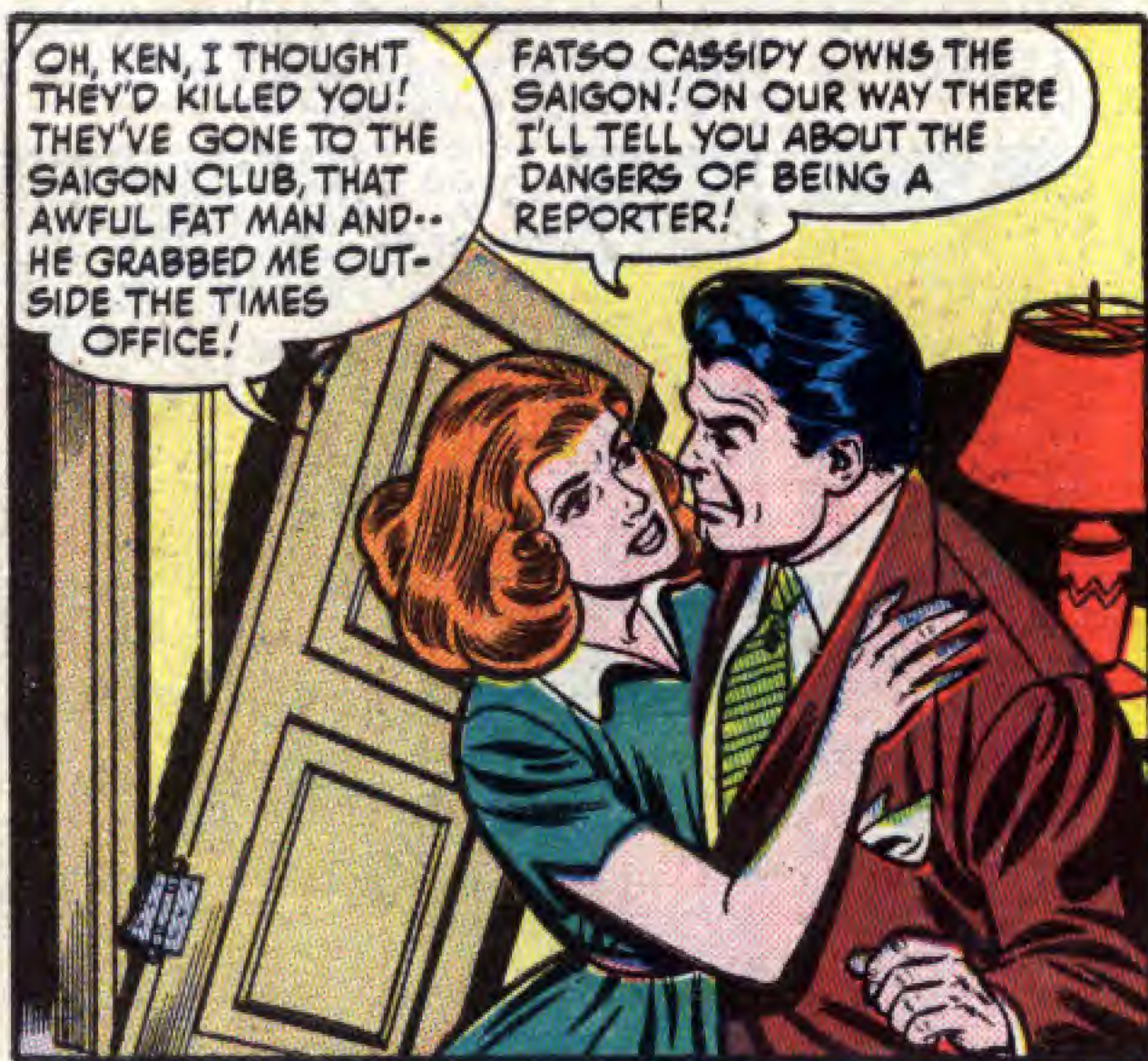
**I** THOUGHT I HEARD DEE DEE SCREAM AS MIDNIGHT SWOOPED DOWN ON ME!

THAT'LL TAKE CARE OF THE LOUSY GUM SHOE!

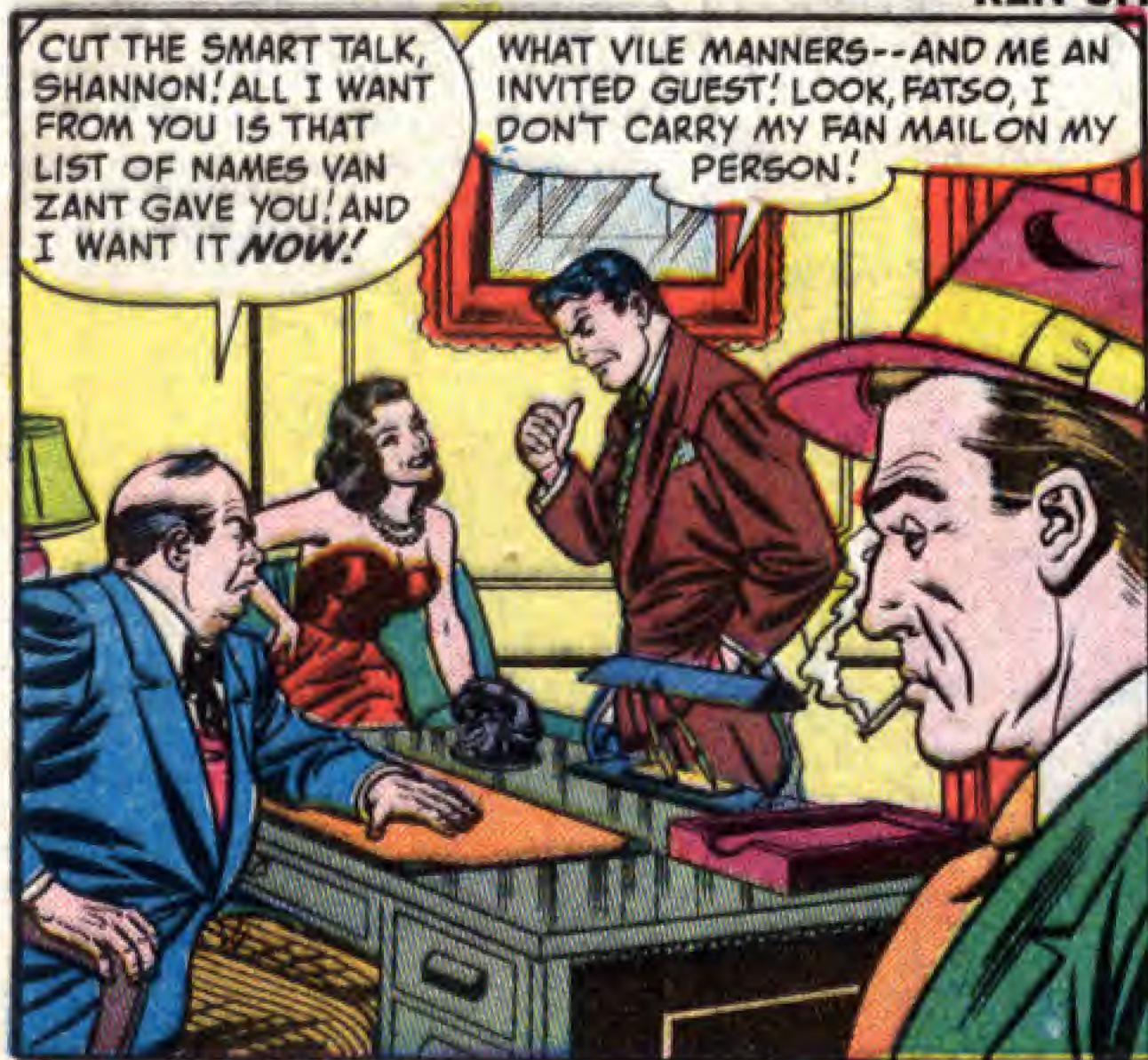




# KEN SHANNON



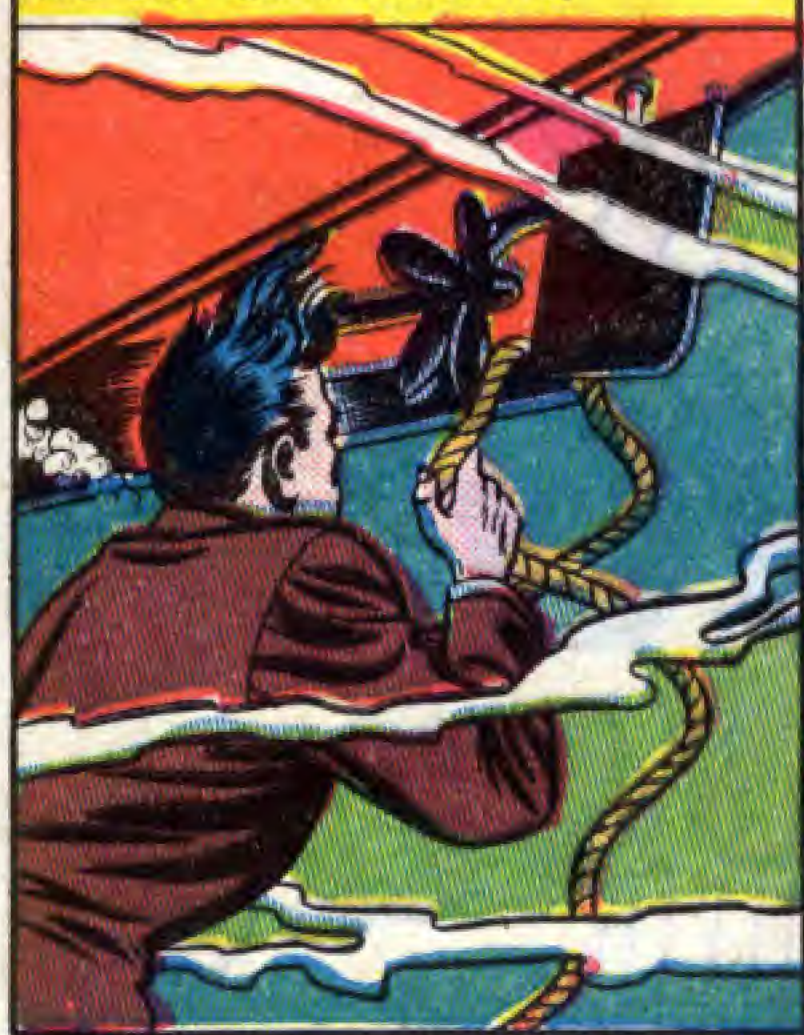






# KEN SHANNON

WHO SAYS POP SHANNON'S BOY IS ALL WET? FATSO ET AL ARE NOW AT THE END OF THEIR ROPE!



GUN IT, PETE! THE SHIP'S ONLY A COUPLE MILES OUT!

RIGHT, BOSS! ONLY I SHOULDA DUMPED THAT REDHEAD IN THE DRINK, INSTEAD O' LEAVIN' HER TIED UP IN YOUR OFFICE!



THE ROPE HELD!

WHAT'S THE MATTER, YOU APE! THE BLASTED BOAT AIN'T MOVIN'!

CAN'T FIGGER IT, BOSS! I'M GIVIN' HER EVERYTHING SHE'S GOT! MEBBE WE'VE LOST THE PROPELLER!



A FEW TIMES IN MY CHECKERED CAREER I'VE BEEN HAPPY TO SEE ART CLYDE! THIS WAS ONE OF THEM!

REACH, YOU MONKEYS! THIS IS A PINCH! AND DON'T TRY HEAVIN' THOSE SATCHELS OVERBOARD!

YOU CRAZY COPPER? WE AIN'T BREAKIN' NO LAW!



NICE WORK, ART! KEEP THE PARTY LIVELY TILL I RUN UP AND GET DEE DEE!

THAT YOU, KEN? YOU LOOK LIKE SOMETHING AN OLD SEA BUCKET BROUGHT UP!



WHILE THE POLICE BOAT TOOK OFF THE SMUGGLERS, I UNTIED DEE DEE AND CAME DOWN!

HOW DID YOU TUMBLE TO IT, ART? NOT THAT I WASN'T MIGHTY GLAD TO SEE YOU!



VAN ZANT WAS DEAD IN HIS BASEMENT! I TIED FATSO TO IT EASY! THEY HAD TWENTY GRAND IN DOPE IN THOSE SATCHELS!



SEE, GREAT BIG MAN, IT WAS MY LITTLE STORY THAT TIPPED IT OFF! NO DOUBT YOU'LL BE RAISING MY SALARY!

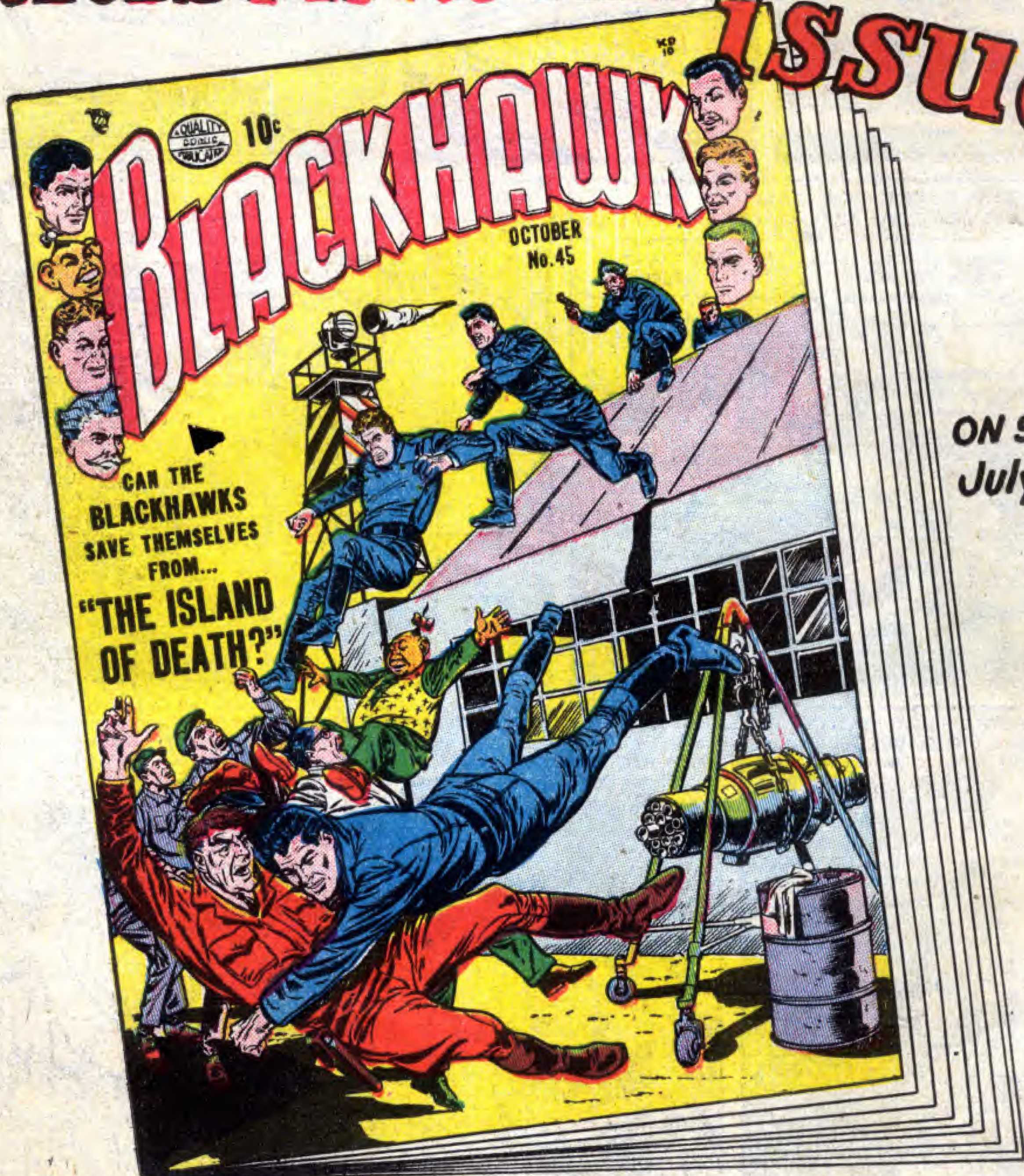
HMM! BIRDS OF A FEATHER ...ALL RIGHT, MY PIGEON!





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|------|-------|------------|-------|-----|--------|----------|--------|-----|------------|
| 1935 | 15    | 12         | 12    | 12  | 12     | 12       | 12     | 12  | 12         |
| 1936 | 15    | 12         | 12    | 12  | 12     | 12       | 12     | 12  | 12         |
| 1937 | 15    | 12         | 12    | 12  | 12     | 12       | 12     | 12  | 12         |
| 1938 | 15    | 12         | 12    | 12  | 12     | 12       | 12     | 12  | 12         |
| 1939 | 15    | 12         | 12    | 12  | 12     | 12       | 12     | 12  | 12         |
| 1940 | 15    | 12         | 12    | 12  | 12     | 12       | 12     | 12  | 12         |
| 1941 | 15    | 12         | 12    | 12  | 12     | 12       | 12     | 12  | 12         |
| 1942 | 15    | 12         | 12    | 12  | 12     | 12       | 12     | 12  | 12         |
| 1943 | 15    | 12         | 12    | 12  | 12     | 12       | 12     | 12  | 12         |
| 1944 | 15    | 12         | 12    | 12  | 12     | 12       | 12     | 12  | 12         |
| 1945 | 15    | 12         | 12    | 12  | 12     | 12       | 12     | 12  | 12         |
| 1946 | 15    | 12         | 12    | 12  | 12     | 12       | 12     | 12  | 12         |
| 1947 | 15    | 12         | 12    | 12  | 12     | 12       | 12     | 12  | 12         |
| 1948 | 15    | 12         | 12    | 12  | 12     | 12       | 12     | 12  | 12         |
| 1949 | 15    | 12         | 12    | 12  | 12     | 12       | 12     | 12  | 12         |
| 1950 | 15    | 12         | 12    | 12  | 12     | 12       | 12     | 12  | 12         |
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